

JPRS 71974

3 October 1978

U S S R

TRANSLATIONS ON USSR MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1382

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GROUND FORCES CHIEF ON NEED FOR STRONG DISCIPLINE

Moscow KOMMUNIST VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 11, Jun 78 signed to press 25 May 78 pp 25-31

[Article by Ground Forces Chief of Staff Colonel General V. Yakushin:
"The Staff and Troop Performance of Duty"]

[Text] The main distinguishing characteristics of the might of the Soviet armed forces are their high vigilance and continuous battle readiness which insure a swift rebuff to any aggressor. The ground force commanders, political organs and staff exert much effort so that the vigilance and battle readiness of the subunits and units are always equal to modern needs. It is exactly from such positions that they approach an evaluation of the results of their work, seeing in this a guarantee of the successful resolution of the tasks emanating from the directives of V. I. Lenin and the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress on further strengthening the defensive capability of our country.

Questions of discipline, extent of organization, and order acquire, as is generally known, important significance in increasing the vigilance and battle readiness of the troops. V. I. Lenin noted that that side wins a war which has advanced equipment, organization and discipline. He demanded absolute accuracy and precision in carrying out the orders and regulations of the commanders and chiefs and declared a relentless war against those who undermine order among the troops.

Organization and tough military discipline are especially important under modern conditions. "Now," Comrade L. I. Brezhnev said, "when the decisive role in the military belongs chiefly to team types of weapons and when success in them depends on the skillful and coordinated activities of many people, high organization, continuous cohesion and faultless execution by each person acquires exceptional importance. Even isolated displays of carelessness and indiscipline on the part of servicemen can lead to serious consequences."

There are many procedures and methods for strengthening military discipline and establishing strict order in accordance with regulations. A very principal role in this is played by a well-placed and effectively-acting troop performance of duty--a set of measures directed at maintaining normal conditions of the everyday life and activities of the subunits and units, and their high battle readiness. Troop performance of duty is regulated by manuals and orders of commanders and is based on solid knowledge and strict fulfillment of their duties by all military personnel. It comprises the organization of daily internal order among the troops during their permanent or temporary billeting, the proper allotment of time, concern for the mode of life, health and sanctity of life of the servicemen, provision of reliable protection for the staffs, units and combat equipment and weapons depots, warehouses and other military objects.

The immediate organizer of troop performance of duty and the champion of a clear military order is the responsible commander who has the high confidence of the Communist Party and the Soviet state and who is personally responsible for the combat readiness of the subunit or unit entrusted to him. He is directly concerned with the problem of managing the living conditions and way of life of the personnel and the training process, he answers for the state of discipline, watches over the correct utilization and upkeep of combat equipment, etc.

The commander leans on his staff in the practical activities of putting into practice the requirements of the regulations and orders of superior commanders, their plans and goals.

It is difficult to overestimate the role of party political work in improving troop performance of duty. V. I. Lenin, in summarizing the activities of the party during the years of the civil war and foreign intervention, noted that "where political work among the troops and the work of commissars was conducted most carefully--where there was no laxity in the army, where its order and spirit was better, that is where there were more victories."

Party political work is a special type of weapon. It embraces all aspects of the life and activities of the personnel, it actively influences the consciousness and hearts of the Soviet warriors, rallies them around the CPSU, mobilizes for the successful resolution of the tasks facing the troops. The major component part of party political work is increasing the consciousness of individuals, their political and military education. Propagandizing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, explaining the domestic and foreign policy of the party, pointing out the outstanding successes of our country in communist construction, thoroughly exploring the role of the army in defending the achievements of socialism and in maintaining peace and security--in all these ways the commanders, political organs and party organizations inform each serviceman of the importance of strong military discipline and organization in increasing vigilance and combat readiness.

In military districts and in groups of forces of many military personnel, where questions of organizing troop performance of duty are decided in a sufficiently skillful way, the commanders and staffs firmly hold all of its levers in their own hands, and achieve a strict fulfillment of training plans and programs, and the maintenance of a firm discipline and a procedure laid down by regulations. Take, for example, the unit commanded by Lieutenant Colonel R. Serov. It was awarded the Challenge Red Banner of the ground forces military council for outstanding achievements in socialist competition in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Russian Revolution. By appropriately meeting the glorious anniversary of the Soviet armed forces, its personnel have successfully completed the winter training period.

What is this unit's secret of success? It is difficult to give a clear answer to this question because results in the training and education of troops depend on many factors. One of the factors influencing the quality of military and political training is troop performance of duty to which the commander, political workers, staff officers, and all unit communists and Komsomol activists pay intense attention.

In organizing measures on troop performance of duty, the staff proceeds from the local features of the unit's garrisoning, gives practical assistance to the subordinate subunits in eliminating defects, continually analyzes the state of affairs in them and, based on this, presents to the commander its suggestions for strengthening discipline, order and organization. Measures concerning troop performance of duty link here with the plans for combat and political training, and party and political work. All of this enhances the role of plans and increases the responsibility of the executors for their realization.

Questions on maintaining the procedure laid down by regulations and providing the efficient performance of guard duty are regularly discussed at party and Komsomol meetings, and also at assemblies and seminars of the party and Komsomol aktiv. Thus, at a unit Komsomol meeting recently they discussed the leading role of Komsomol members and activists of non-Komsomol members in performing garrison, unit administration and guard duty. Somewhat earlier, at meetings of the party bureau and Komsomol committee of the unit, they examined the problems of "Party Bureau Work in Mobilizing Personnel for the Exemplary Performance of Guard Duty," "Work of the Komsomol Committee on Inspiring Komsomol Members with a Feeling of Responsibility for the Exemplary Performance of Unit Administration Duty," and others.

The staff party organization gives much help to the unit command in maintaining strong discipline and a firm procedure laid down by regulations, and in insuring the efficient performance of guard and unit administration duty. The condition of troop performance of duty is systematically discussed at bureau meetings. The party organization exercises control over the work of the staff communists who work with these problems and

for the dissemination of advanced experience among the subunits. The tenor of life, training and the routine of the troops, established in this unit in strict conformity with regulations, allows the systematic organization of the training process at a high level, and assists in the formation among the people of such qualities as cohesiveness, industriousness, vigilance and constant preparedness to carry out the combat mission. All of this beneficially affects the successes of this foremost military collective and it is no accident that it was awarded the challenge red banner of the ground forces military council.

The experience of this and the other leading units convinces us that the fulfillment of combat and political training plans and the effectiveness of troop training and education depends mainly on how skillfully the commander directs the activities of the staff and of the party organization in solving the problems of managing troop performance of duty.

One of the main tasks of a staff is planning measures for troop performance of duty. Before the start of the training year, on orders of the commander, the staff, in conjunction with the commander's deputies and service chiefs, prepares proposals on troop performance of duty management taking into account the volume and nature of the tasks which must be carried out, the conditions of subunit billeting, etc. The subunit commanders are also included in the development of such an important document as the daily routine.

The commander's decision on organizing troop performance of duty is announced to personnel by a unit order. The combat training plans call for instructional exercises with the troops who are on 24-hour duty, measures for monitoring the performance of guard duty, the equipping and maintenance of guardrooms, and posts at guarded objects. In the foremost units they conduct training with all categories of command personnel on organizing troop performance of duty and they arrange competitive inspections of the condition of barracks, depots, guardrooms and guarded objects, places for the performance of duty by 24-hour duty personnel, etc.

Of course, they do not limit themselves to planning staff functions. One of their basic activities focuses on putting designated measures into practice, working directly in the subunits helping their commanders to maintain exemplary military order, and organizing effective control over the fulfillment of the requirements of regulations, orders and instructions.

Control and assistance--these are the two sides of staff operations aimed at the achievement of a common goal. Their interdependence and interconditionality are inseparably linked. Unfortunately, there are still staff officers who take a narrow view of control. Working in subunits or units, these officers direct their main efforts at exposing shortcomings. It is impossible to say that such actions are totally correct. One should not forget that organizing an inspection of the state of affairs among the troops assumes first of all help to the subordinates, teaching them an efficient organization of troop performance of duties, instilling the know-how of the leading subunits and units, and eliminating defects.

In which direction, in our opinion, should practical work go? What questions should it be advisable for staff officers to address? For the first plan, apparently one ought to raise such important questions as the study and introduction into the practical work of the troops of the statutes of the general military regulations. This is important because it is difficult to overestimate the role of regulations in strengthening military discipline and in increasing the combat effectiveness and battle readiness of subunits and units. More than two years have passed since the new general military regulations were put into effect. Much work has been done lately on studying them. This has led to a noticeable revival of the political, military and legal education of personnel and has had a great positive influence on resolving practical tasks. However, there are also deficiencies in this. One of the main ones, it appears, is that the study of the general military regulations is not always combined with an introduction of their requirements. The prescribed regulations have not become the firm standards of military life everywhere. The facts have to be faced--there are subunits and units where the regulations are studied in a manner that is out of touch with the life and service of the personnel.

Much can be said about the importance of a clear internal order and the strict fulfillment of the daily routine. However, if words are not backed up by action, if the personal responsibility of persons in authority, all 24-hour duty people--from the company orderly to the regimental duty officer, are not maintained, if the training schedule and daily routine do not become the law for each and everyone, then the very best intentions will remain unrealized. In such a case, no extraordinary measures, no responsible persons which may be still here and there appointed in addition to the daily duty detail will help.

Let's take the daily routine. It is generally known that it is an inviolable law of military life. Its strict observance provides a high state of organization to the units and subunits. It is just as necessary to speak about controlling the procedure laid down by regulations in a military post, the barracks, or classrooms. It is important that all of the conditions for normal living, training and duty of the personnel have been created here. It is also impossible to forget about those groups of military personnel who carry out their tasks in isolation from the main body of personnel--in training centers, at tank training areas and firing ranges. It is exactly here that conditions arise for different kinds of disciplinary violations. Speaking at the all-army conference on improving the life of the troops on 20 December 1977, member of the Political Bureau of the CC CPSU, Minister of Defense of the USSR Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov said that "it is necessary to organize matters in such a way that under all circumstances the troops will have a place to become warm, if it is cold, and for shelter from the heat, a place where one could normally receive food and pass one's free time in a cultural way."

It must be kept in mind that there is not one word in the regulations which can be disregarded. All of its statutes are so closely correlated that an inadequately efficient execution of one of them, as a rule, adversely affects the entire tenor of life and activities of the subunit and often leads to serious consequences.

In connection with this, it is impossible not to emphasize the importance of the practice of discipline. The skillful utilization by commanders and chiefs of the rewards and punishments specified by the disciplinary regulations of the USSR armed forces, greatly influences the consciousness and feelings of military personnel, activates their energies in the struggle for new successes in training, service and competition.

Party concern for the future improvement of the management of troop performance of duty presupposes the firm support of the demands of the commanders, as well as a strengthening of their authority and their training in high party qualities. The communists and Komsomol members appear as dependable assistant commanders in solving the problems on increasing combat readiness of the subunits and units, and strengthening military discipline and organization.

The activities of the staff party organizations must be especially noted in this plan--they are the sturdy supports of the commanders and staff chiefs in resolving the great and responsible tasks facing the units including, to be sure, questions of troop performance of duty.

It must be said that the staff party organizations, to a large extent, skillfully and objectively organize the work, effectively influence the further improvement of troop performance of duty, and strengthen military discipline. One can cite one of the leaders of the all-army socialist competition--the motorized rifle regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Franchuk. The life, mode of living, training and service of the troops of this unit have been organized in full conformity with the general military regulations. Great work on this was done by the commander, staff, and party organization. The Party Bureau, headed by Major V. Grishchenko, is constantly concerned that the communist officers have thoroughly mastered Marxist-Leninist theory, have increased their military and professional training, know perfectly the requirements of the general military regulations and have performed their party and service duties with a sense of deep responsibility. Here each communist officer receives a concrete task before being sent to a subunit. For example, he may conduct a discussion there on the general military regulations, assist in organizing instructional exercises on troop performance of duty, disseminate advanced experience, etc. Special attention is paid to the personal example of staff officers in fulfilling the requirements of the regulations. At party bureau meetings and at assemblies they regularly listen to reports by the communists on the results of the work conducted in the subunits on fulfilling the requirements of CPSU regulations.

The effectiveness of the work of the party organizations, their activity and efficiency, the ability to direct the energies of the communists and all troops in resolving the tasks of troop performance of duty directly depend on the leadership provided by the political organs. Where the political departments deeply and thoroughly analyze the situation in the subunits and units and examine in detail the life and activities of the party organizations, including the staffs, where effective measures for achieving the designated goals are found, where they continually check the carrying out of party decisions, directives and recommendations, there the communists play a leading role, not by words but by action, in the struggle to strengthen discipline and organize the life and military training of the troops in conformity with the requirements of the general military regulations. One must flatly ignore facts when individual officers, trying to create a picture of imaginary well-being in one or another collective, disregard troop breaches of discipline. And if they announce penalties, then they do not note them down in the record of service cards and do not report them in accordance with orders. Similar facts must attract the close attention of the staffs and political organs, the party and Komsomol organizations, and must be seriously censured.

Or take a responsible area like guard duty. It holds a special place in the life and activities of the troops. The fact is that performing guard duty is fulfilling a combat task since only the guard is permitted to use weapons in peacetime. It is entrusted with guarding the lives of the troops, the battle standard of the unit, weapons and military equipment, warehouses.

It must be noted that guard duty among the troops has recently been given proper attention and in many units and subunits it is maintained at a high level. In the unit about which we spoke at the beginning of this article, they not only thoroughly prepare personnel for performing this duty in conformity with the requirements of the regulations, but they also use a method worthy of attention for inspecting the guard. Specifically, each officer assigned to this is given an individual task which includes a number of earlier thought-out questions. What is envisioned is a thorough inspection of guard duty, the equipment of the guardrooms and guarded objects. Moreover the task of the inspectors includes not only the exposure of one or another deficiency but, first and foremost, giving assistance at the place where they are being exposed.

A staff, as is generally known, must tirelessly be concerned that the study and introduction of regulations has a purposeful and systematic nature. This is possible if the personal training of staff officers is sufficiently high, if any of them investigates carefully all of the details of military life, possesses the skills of an organizer, is capable of operationally affecting all facets of the daily activities of troops, and achieves a strong procedure laid down by regulations, organization and discipline.

In a majority of cases staff officers skillfully organize the work in the units and subunits. They go there not only to prepare an appropriate report for the leadership, but also to take measures on the spot to eliminate defects, help the commanders, and teach them how to introduce the requirements of the regulations into practice. The officers V. Timokhin, K. Kustlivyy, A. Kostenko and others are working purposefully and persistently among the troops. They prepare carefully and conscientiously for each visit. At the critiques conducted by them you always hear sound criticism, business-like advice and concrete recommendations. Displaying a high degree of organization and culture in the work, their personal example inspires the troops with their strict fulfillment of the demands of the regulations and by effectively introducing them into the daily life of the troops.

It says in the internal service regulations of the USSR armed forces that "the commander(chief) must serve for his subordinates as an example of one who strictly observes moral and ethical standards of conduct, and irreproachably fulfills the requirements of Soviet laws, the military oath, military regulations and their service obligations." Personal example, you see, is an integral quality of an officer. It helps him to strengthen the strict procedure laid down by regulations, to raise the exacting attitudes toward themselves and each other, to arouse a genuine personal interest in the successes for the common goal. This is why military service, regulations and the moral standards of officers elevate personal example to the class of one of the important methods for educationally influencing subordinates.

The successful struggle for the skillful organization of troop performance of duty depends, to a considerable extent, on the chiefs of arms and services. Each of them, of course, is not indifferent to how life and military training of the subordinates have been organized and how their discipline is. However, in a number of units some chiefs of arms and services are concerned with these questions without the proper urgency from case to case. A false opinion still exists among some of them that only commanders and staff chiefs are obliged to get involved with troop performance of duty. It is impossible to call such a situation normal.

Subunit officers and warrant officers(praporshchiki) as well as NCOs play a large and responsible role in maintaining the procedure laid down by regulations. I especially want to dwell on the role of the most numerous class of junior commanders--the NCOs. Success in combat and political training and in strengthening military discipline largely depends on their training, professional skills and their ability to work with subordinates.

Practice confirms that if NCOs have high moral political and business-like qualities and thorough professional training, then it is easier for the officers, leaning on their help, to supervise the subunits. This is why it is necessary for the staffs to make every effort to strengthen the authority of the junior commanders and to help them to master military knowledge, habits in organizing combat training and troop performance of duty. It is important to instill in them a high exacting attitude

toward themselves and the understanding that they can earn authority from their subordinates only through conscientious labor and a serious attitude toward their duties. Only when the junior commander can achieve success in training and educating troops, will he himself know and clearly fulfill the requirements of the military oath and general military regulations and strictly maintain discipline.

A no less important task of staffs is a systematic and thorough analysis of the condition of troop performance of duty on the spot. This means a creative process whose aim is the establishment of the true state of affairs in the subunits and units and a determination of the stage of conformity of troop performance of duty to the requirements of the general military regulations and orders of the USSR Ministry of Defense, the exposure of the causes producing incidents and breaches of discipline, the uncovering of the causal link between the offences and the conditions under which they were committed, the determination of measures for eliminating the defects exposed in the course of the inspection. All of this is necessary in order to determine in a timely fashion where, on what days and at what time, and the breaches of regulations allowed by what category of serviceman which led to one or another offence. Such work makes it possible for commanders and staffs to determine concrete measures for eliminating defects and helping to organize troop performance of duty.

Such a crucial moment in staff activities as consolidating and introducing advanced know-how on managing troop performance of duty also directly ensues from an analysis of the state of affairs among the troops. Valuable experience is continuously accumulated in everyday military work and many new progressive things arise in the work of commanders and staffs on organizing troop performance of duty. There are many subunits and units among the troops which have achieved high indicators in combat and political training and in strengthening discipline and military order. However, this experience is still inadequately studied and disseminated. We must again face the facts when we see that things are going successfully in one unit while in another, under approximately equal conditions, there are serious shortcomings in the management of troop performance of duty and in the state of discipline.

Of course, one must approach every experience wisely and carefully. V. I. Lenin advised that in examining advanced know-how each time you must ask yourself the following questions: What exactly are these successes? Have they been proven? Do not we have wild stories, boasting and weak-willed words here? How were these successes achieved? How do you make them the property of others? Our staffs use different means, including leadership courses, demonstrations and instructional methods exercises and the publication of instructional technique manuals and recommendations to introduce advanced experience to the troops.

Of course, the efficient management of troop performance of duty is not an end in itself for us. It was and remains a sturdy foundation for a procedure laid down by regulations and strengthening of military discipline, a guarantee of important results in combat and political training, and in further increasing the vigilance and combat readiness of the ground forces units and subunits.

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TRAINING SHORTCOMINGS IN TANK REGIMENT DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Jun 78 p 2

[Article by Lt. Col V. Moroz, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent: "Not By This Measure"]

[Text] The guards tank regiment which Guards Lt Col V. Voloshchenko commands is the initiator of socialist competition in the Kiev Military District. Even quite recently the high achievements of the tankers were singled out during meetings of the party aktiv and during work meetings. Suddenly after the winter training results were summed up they began to talk about their actions in a different tone. What had happened?

... Firing training was being fully checked in the 2d Battalion. Guards Maj P. Topkin, the battalion commander, was preparing for the concluding session without any special emotion. The results of the last firings were good, especially in the company commanded by Guards Sr Lt V. Strigin. When rating its actions on the firing range, the battalion commander even did not refrain from wishing.

"Let it be that way during the check-out!"

However, during the check-out everything was different. The company was not able to repeat its recent successes.

Before the firing began, the inspectors from Moscow stipulated the condition: observe all the requirements of the Firing Course. It unexpectedly turned out that much had to be changed on the range to do this. Several reference points had to be taken away and the embankments under the target lifts had to be lessened: They gave away the targets. The main thing was that the electronic facilities of the moving target gunnery range had to be put in order and it had to be seen to that the gunner actually didn't know in advance the plan of the fire mission.

However, why were these requirements a surprise to the tankers? Did the inspectors really not check everything before with the requirements of the Firing Course? This document, of course, is well known in the division

headquarters and the district combat training directorate. The workers there are sufficiently competent to determine whether the conditions for the exercise are being observed. It was just that before the importance of the so-called "local factor," the nature of the relief, could not be managed without additional reference points and the wear and tear on the range equipment had been exaggerated. The complaisance of the inspectors in this matter was explainable. The officers from the division headquarters were themselves responsible for the condition of the training material base and were required to help the regiment to improve it. The impression is created that counterclaims would seemingly be mollified by concessions and excuses on their part. On this occasion not a single shot rang out while even the slightest deviation from guidance document requirements remained.

As a result the situation at the range changed so much that the familiar exercise appeared to the crews in a new light. It turned out that more universal skills and a better developed ability to observe the battlefield, conduct reconnaissance and act more dexterously with the sight were necessary for carrying it out. Many gun layers did not have these qualities.

The inspectors also did not resign themselves to local "specifics" during the next check-out session. The company commanded by Guards Sr Lt N. Berezhnoy was faced with an examination on an exercise with live firing. Progressive instructional methods requirements for tactical classes are well known: originality of concept, a complex situation which approximates combat, and preferably unfamiliar terrain. However, the concept of the company exercises had not essentially changed in the regiment from month to month. They were always conducted on one and the same spot of the range--in front of the towers--where tactical drill classes are also planned and firing exercises are carried out.

Not once was all this called by its name--oversimplification. It was presumed that you would not display any special creativity on a range of modest dimensions. The pattern in the nature of exercises was justified by the need to observe safety measures. Now, the commission not only contended that it was possible to put this stage of the live firing into the interior of the range in a new sector but it also helped to implement what had been planned.

We will not dwell on the details of the exercise. We will only point out that Guards Sr Lt N. Berezhnoy today also put down to the company's credit that it "had not erred" during the night, that it had moved to the designated attack line and maintained the direction of attack. Against the background of such "credits" the small percentage of destroyed targets seemed less distressing to the officer.

In a word, an excellent battalion in an excellent regiment turned out to be unequal to the occasion. It was necessary to give up the honorary titles.

Effectiveness of control.... It is measured not by the number of detected deficiencies but by the profoundness of the conclusions. Inspections, which only touch upon details, do not incline one to maximum mobilization and do not train the ones being inspected for self-criticism and an exacting evaluation of their work. When analyzing what happened in the regiment one involuntarily thinks about this truth. The senior chiefs were there often and did not avoid the range. They invariably detected some omission or gap, demanded that they be eliminated without delay, and provided help. However, the main element--a profound and thorough analysis of the training process--was missing. Is this not why they began to get used to oversimplifications and excuses here?

What does such an inspection episode testify to if not to the superficiality of control? The chairman of the commission invited one of the young officers to explain the reason for his personal failure in the firing.

The lieutenant answered: "I was used to the left 'path'. I had to fire from the right...."

Later, this statement was called immature in the division headquarters, evidently having in mind that it was not necessary to speak about simplifications with such frankness. However, what prevented such "immaturity" from being displayed earlier, the correct reference points from being lost in training, and oversimplifications from being transformed into the norm?

And really didn't the "innovator", who suggested covering the targets with paint with a touch of ... crushed glass, rely on perfunctory control? They say that they will be more noticeable in the sun's rays. A very eloquent detail....

In the political section of the large unit they thought that socialist competition was well organized in the regiment and that a spirit of combat rivalry and healthy competition reigned during classes here. Outwardly that's how everything stood. Contests on tasks and norms were regularly conducted, the best specialists and subunits were brought to light. A flag in honor of the victorious company was raised every month in front of the barracks. The results were effectively reflected in visual agitation. However, achieving high effectiveness in competition doesn't only mean improving its forms. The effectiveness of competition is measured first of all by its effect on the quality of combat training and on the indoctrination of the men. The weight of record seconds in carrying out norms and of results which nominate this or that subunit as a leader always depends on the complexity of the situation in which they are demonstrated.

The bitter experience of the company headed by Guards Sr Lt V. Strigin once again recalls this. Formerly, the company was repeatedly declared a winner in the competition between the regiment's subunits. During this inspection it did not confirm the high indicators. It is impossible to

blame only the company commander for this. He, himself, was taught incorrectly--just as those gun-layers who wore the title of best specialists but who endured the bitter taste of failure during the deciding examination.

The lack of effectiveness in control is explained by many reasons. Among these are an atmosphere of definite condescension to the initiators of competition taking shape in the district. Their achievements at times were clearly exaggerated. The regimental commander, Guards Lt Col V. Voloshchenko was required to be busy with various delegations more than with conducting check-out sessions with his subordinates.

The experience of the commander of an excellent battalion, Guards Maj P. Topkin was energetically publicized. And the question also didn't arise: What was the essence of this experience, what new and valuable had been introduced, let us say, in the organization of tank firing training and of company exercises? Here is how it turned out. Last year the battalion commander was twice commended for his successes; this year, he was warned about imperfect work conformity because of shortcomings.

Our relation to the initiators of socialist competition--including the initiators at the district level is special. It is respectful. They have outlined a high goal whose achievement requires persistent work. They have adopted a special responsibility together with obligations. And it is strict: We always expect more from them than from others--more even in the ability to draw conclusions from failures, to eliminate deficiencies, and to make up for what has been neglected.

Much changed in the regiment after the memorable inspection. The renovation of the range training material base was completed. It became more modern and more reliable. A tactical field which was lacking earlier was set up. A more complicated and instructive situation is being created during classes. A turning point appeared. However, it is still necessary to do a lot. The task will depend on the intensity of day to day control, the exactingness in evaluating the results of classes, and the readiness to check each indicator again and again with the high measure of modern combat.

8802

CSO: 1801

MILITARY LIBRARY FACILITIES DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Jun 78 p 1

[Editorial: "Our Libraries"]

[Text] There is something deeply symbolic in the universal love and respect which libraries enjoy in our country. This is because each of them is a temple of books and a treasury of knowledge, courage and experience which has been accumulated on thousands of thousands of book pages. The general fund of our popular libraries today consists of more than three billion volumes. This fund is growing each year but the love of books and the need to have contact with them is growing even more in our builders of communism, in the most read population in the world and in army and navy fighting men who are reliable defenders of Great October's accomplishments.

The love of a military reader for a library is an exacting and prejudiced love. He doesn't simply look for a book here but for that one which he needs, he expects skilled advice, he eagerly and thoughtfully listens to surveys of new items in literature, and he conscientiously uses the capabilities of a library to broaden his ideological and political outlook and improve his military and military technical knowledge and esthetic and moral perfection. Libraries are acquiring ever more importance as ideological and cultural centers, as centers for publicizing the achievements of the Soviet people in building communism, and as effective bases for self-education. The results of the recently completed all-union inspection of the work of libraries convincingly testify to this. Army and navy libraries actively participated in this.

In carrying out the critical tasks assigned by the 25th CPSU Congress and by the CC CPSU resolution, "On Increasing the Role of Libraries in the Communist Indoctrination of the Workers and in Scientific and Technical Progress", army and navy libraries are arranging their work in close ties with life and the combat and political training of the troops. It is noteworthy that the demand of fighting men for political literature is growing from year to year. During the last three years it has increased by one and a half times. Readers conferences on Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev's books, "Malaya Zemlya [Small Earth] and "Vozrozhdeniye" [Revival] were

exciting events. Such interesting work forms as Leninist, October and congress readings, Leninist book weeks, literary and artistic evenings, and meetings with the writers and heroes of books have firmly entered the work practices of libraries.

The approach of army and navy libraries to readers' inquiries is becoming more differentiated. Such categories of servicemen as young officers, warrant officers, students in the university of Marxism-Leninism, political class group leaders, and young fighting men especially stand out. Recommended subject lists of literature, exhibitions of new items, and topical book displays are addressed to them.

Today almost two-thirds of officer club libraries and many troop unit and ship libraries enjoy the services of inter-library subscriptions. This permits readers in even the most remote garrisons to obtain practically any book needed which is in oblast and republic libraries and in the USSR State Library imeni V. I. Lenin. The inspection contributed to stirring up the work of bibliophile societies further. Primary bibliophile organizations have been created at every district, fleet and group of forces officers club and in many large garrisons. They are working in close contact with the local societies of book lovers. This is especially characteristic of the Belorussian, Transcaucasus and Central Asian military districts. For example the bibliophiles of Kazakhstan have collected and given as a gift about 40,000 publications of artistic, memoir and reference literature to unit libraries.

Along with this there are still quite a few shortcomings in the activity of some army and navy libraries. For example, commanders and political workers do not direct their work objectively everywhere. For example, in the libraries of some air force units instances of formalism in the task of publicizing books have not been gotten rid of and readers' conferences, literary evenings and other mass measures are seldom conducted. In a number of Strategic Rocket Forces, Air Defense Forces, and Railroad Forces libraries the need to put catalogues, work journals and other accounting forms into shape is not satisfied to the fullest extent. The work of enlarging the number of readers is not being conducted sufficiently actively in a number of units. Side by side with subunits where everyone visits the library, subunits are encountered where the circle of readers is narrow.

Commanders and political workers must guide more energetically the work of libraries in using the book fund more effectively for the purposes of politically, militarily and morally indoctrinating all categories of servicemen and for increasing the role of books in the struggle for interesting leisure time, for uniting troop collectives and for high military discipline. Questions about further improving the work of libraries, its connection with life, and improving the theoretical and instructional methods training of library workers must be an object of constant attention by political organs and party organizations.

Summer combat training is taking place in the forces and fleets. Army and navy fighting men are striving to make a worthy contribution to carrying out the tasks assigned by the 25th CPSU Congress through their selfless military work. A great help to them in the struggle to carry out high socialist obligations can and must be provided by army and navy libraries by organically linking the mass publicizing of a book with troop life and by seeing to it that each readers' conference, literary evening, survey, and book display becomes a substantial link in a single training and indoctrination process. It is necessary to devote special attention to raising the ideological level of library work further, and to the thorough publicizing of 25th CPSU Congress materials, the Constitution of the USSR, and the works and speeches of comrade L. I. Brezhnev, the CC CPSU general secretary and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Libraries have been called upon to publicize more effectively literature about the achievements of a developed socialist society and our Soviet way of life and to take an active part in unmasking the ideological sabotage of bourgeois propaganda and in instilling in Soviet fighting men intolerance toward any display of morals foreign to us.

The Soviet individual does not without reason call his libraries "people's libraries." The worker, the kolkhoz member, the engineer, and the fighting man well know the road to them. A good book is capable of helping during any difficult test, of becoming a companion, a friend and a teacher. The library--the most important center for communist indoctrination and for further enriching the spiritual world of the Soviet individual--has been called upon to suggest and recommend the book needed by a reader.

8802

CSO: 1801

INDOCTRINATION MATERIAL ON KOMSOMOL CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Jun 78 p 2

[Article: "On Studying the CC CPSU Greeting to the 18th Komsomol Congress, the Speech of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, CC CPSU General Secretary and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and 18th Komsomol Congress Materials"]

[Text] The greetings of the CC CPSU to the 18th Komsomol Congress, comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech to the congress and the materials of the Komsomol congress have exceptional importance in further strengthening the communist indoctrination of Soviet youth and army and navy fighting men. They are program documents for all the work of the Komsomol and army and navy Komsomol organizations in mobilizing Komsomol members to implement the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress successfully.

When preparing and conducting classes with personnel of units and ships it is necessary to keep in mind that the deep and thorough study by each Komsomol member and by all army and navy youth of Leninist precepts, the greetings of the CC CPSU to the 18th Komsomol Congress, comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech to the congress, his books "Malaya Zemlya" [Small Earth] and "Vozrozhdeniye" [Revival] is now an important task of all ideological and indoctrinational work.

It is recommended that classes be conducted on the following subject: "The Greetings of the CC CPSU to the 18th Komsomol Congress, the Speech of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CC CPSU and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the Materials of the 18th Komsomol Congress Are Program Documents for the Communist Indoctrination of Soviet Youth and Army and Navy Fighting Men and for Mobilizing Them To Carry Out the Historic Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress Successfully."

A total of four hours, including two hours for a lecture and two hours for a seminar, have been allotted for the study of this subject within the warrant officer political training system. Four to six hours have been allotted for political classes with soldiers, sailors, cadets, sergeants,

and petty officers. In the groups where classes will be conducted for six hours the directors must allot two hours for the lecture and four hours for the seminar. In doing this, it is necessary to concentrate the men's main attention on a thorough explanation of the statements and tasks contained in comrade L. I. Brezhnev's speech and the conclusions flowing from them for the practical work of army and navy fighting men. During the lecture (narration) it is advisable to examine the following questions.

1. The struggle for the efficiency and quality of production is the determining factor in economic and social development. The most important frontiers of the fighting men in the struggle for qualitative indicators in combat and political training.

2. Securing a firm and stable peace is the goal of the foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state. Strengthening the defensive might of the motherland, being constantly combat ready, and persistently studying military equipment and weapons are the sacred duties of a Soviet fighting man.

3. Mastering revolutionary theory and the experience of the CPSU and instilling in oneself high political consciousness, a scientific world outlook and deep communist convictions are the main tasks of Komsomol members and young fighting men during the present stage.

For discussing this topic during the seminar it is recommended that the following questions be submitted:

1. Increasing production efficiency and work quality is the key task of the 10th Five-Year Plan and the determining factor in the country's economic and social development and in the growth of its scientific and technical potential.

2. The activity of the CPSU in carrying out the program for the further struggle for peace and international cooperation which was adopted by the 25th CPSU Congress. The historical successes of the world of socialism and the growth of its power and influence.

3. Forming in Soviet fighting men a communist moral fiber and an active and vital position and ensuring the unity of ideological, political, moral, military, and legal indoctrination are an important requirement of the 18th Komsomol Congress placed on army and navy Komsomol organizations.

4. High political vigilance and the constant combat readiness of units and ships are the main tasks of Soviet fighting men.

In developing the first question the propagandist points out that questions on the participation of the Komsomol in the development of the country's economy were at the center of the congress' attention. The successful carrying out of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress is the combat program and the main task of all USSR workers. Ensuring that Komsomol members set the example in combat training and service and instilling in them a

conscientious attitude toward the study of new equipment and weapons is the main direction in the work of army and navy Komsomol organizations. Komsomol organizations have been called upon to see that each fighting man feels a personal responsibility for the defense of the motherland, values training time, uses it more effectively, skilfully searches for new methods for combat operations, boldly exceeds norms, and displays initiative, creativity and ingenuity.

Increasing vigilance and the combat readiness of the army and navy, the readiness of the armed forces to ensure the peaceful and constructive work of the Soviet people, is an objective conformity to law and one of the most important party requirements placed on the motherland's young defenders. It is advisable to conclude the examination of this question with the passing of the tasks facing army and navy fighting men which proceed from comrade L. I. Brezhnev's presentation to the Komsomol congress and during his trip to the areas of Siberia and the Far East.

When developing the second question, the lecturer points out that, thanks to the tireless activity of the CPSU, the forces of peace are growing throughout the world. Decreasing the threat of the eruption of a new world war is the main goal of our state's foreign policy under present conditions. Seeing that the military danger is lessened, halting and stopping the arms race--this is the central task today. The speaker tells about the specific steps and directions of party and government work in ensuring a stable peace during recent years. He explains the content of the editorial, "On the Present Policy of the U.S. Government" and the declaration of the Soviet government published in the press on 23 June of this year.

When elaborating on the third question, the class director explains that indoctrinating army and navy youth in a spirit of communist conviction, Soviet patriotism, proletarian internationalism, and devotion to the socialist motherland is the main task of Komsomol organizations in the armed forces. It is necessary to organize this work on a firm foundation of revolutionary theory. Mastery of the Leninist ideological and theoretical heritage, the classical works of Marxism-Leninism, the materials of the 25th CPSU Congress, and party documents is the day-to-day task of Komsomol members and young fighting men.

The speaker points out that L. I. Brezhnev's memoirs "Malaya Zemlya" and "Vozrozhdeniye" are powerful sources for the ideological, moral, military, and patriotic indoctrination of Soviet youth and army and navy fighting men.

In conclusion, the speaker draws conclusions on the importance of developing in the rising generation pride in their great country and the necessity to explain the Leninist national policy of the CPSU and its achievements. Military service is a school for indoctrination, courage, self-control, and discipline for youth who are entering the army and navy. It is important to use it more fully for instilling in youth the high qualities of internationalist patriots.

The success in conducting political classes will depend a lot on their qualitative preparation. That is why it is necessary to involve the leading element of large units and units, the best prepared propagandists, and delegates to the 18th Komsomol Congress in this work.

It is necessary to conduct special seminars with political training group leaders, provide them instructional methods layouts, and arrange meetings of 18th Komsomol congress delegates and party and Komsomol veterans with propagandists and students.

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8802

CSO: 1801

DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG COMMANDERS AT RADAR SITES DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Jun 78 p 2

[Article by Lt Col V. Tsapenko: "After Assignment"]

[Text] Capt Aleksandr Musiyenko who had served here as a company commander for almost three years was just about to go to a new service post from one of our remote radar "sites". It is not difficult to imagine what feelings the officer experienced during these days. Of course there was both secret happiness and gentle and bright sadness-happiness because he was being transferred to a higher position. The captain's sadness was completely understandable: He was used to--he had gotten accustomed to the people. It was difficult to leave.

We, the officers in the headquarters and political section had our own thoughts and our own anxieties in connection with Musiyenko's transfer. It was pleasant that the individual had justified our trust in one of the most difficult sectors, it was pleasant that he was maturing and quickly gathering knowledge and experience. But along with the satisfaction there was a disturbing question. Who would be assigned to replace him? There were quite a few candidates and it was necessary to select the most worthy one. Is there a guarantee that the one who is assigned to replace Muksiyenko will be as confidently operational and will labor as conscientiously and skilfully? This question cannot be answered in one word. Much will depend on us, the senior comrades, who will teach him, and most of all, of course on him, himself.

When reflecting on this, I recall our best young commanders who begin to work without wavering and achieve good results in a short period of time. I also think about those whose formation in a commander's walk of life has been dragged out. I compare their qualities and work style. What distinguishes the former, what inclinations and what character features contribute to their success? What do the latter lack, what hinders them and puts a brake on their growth?

Valeriy Zavrazhin finished a military school and arrived in our unit seven years ago. During this time he has been assigned more than once to a higher position and each time he has justified the trust. In a word, all

of his service, although still not long, has been--if it is possible to say this--a taking on of the heights--a steady growth in his command skill. Captain Zavrazhin is now studying at a military academy.

They sometimes say about a sensible young officer: He has a commander's chord. We saw this chord in Zavrazhin even at the very beginning of his officer service. Having arrived in the unit, he steadily asked for assignments "where there were more people." He was assigned as chief of a radar station. There it immediately became evident that he would become a good organizer and indoctrinator.

No, I do not wish to say that everything came easily to Zavrazhin and that he did not make any mistakes. At first there were, it seems, no less errors in his relationships with subordinates than other lieutenants had. However, at the same time the way he related to these errors distinguished him favorably. Even the slightest negligence, at times unnoticed by others, always forced him to think and to evaluate his own actions critically.

Once Pvt. N. Pavlovskiy turned to him and pleading a toothache asked to be allowed to go to the doctor. Zavrazhin permitted it. But the soldier, having received a pass, immediately forgot about the "ailment" and went for a walk in the park. He returned to the subunit late and a bit tight....

Zavrazhin took this event deeply to heart. Another young officer will ask: Why is it properly necessary to take it to heart? He says the soldier did a bad turn, punish him according to his deserts--for this a commander's power has been given to you.

Zavrazhin reasoned otherwise. He, of course, made Pavlovskiy responsible in all strictness. The collective sternly condemned the misdemeanor of the soldier. In addition the lieutenant concluded for himself that he had not been able to really teach Pavlovskiy during a half year of joint service. Why? It turns out that his methods for studying the individual qualities of people are not complete. This means that it is necessary to master a knowledge of military pedagogics and psychology and the art of individual work more persistently.

I recalled this item from Zavrazhin's officer's biography especially well. And this is why. It occurred not long before the results of the training period were summed up. This circumstance had no unimportant significance. The fact was that because of Pavlovskiy's misdemeanor the crew headed by the lieutenant could drop from the leaders in competition to one of the last places. The lieutenant, of course, understood this. However, without hesitating, he went to the commander and honestly reported everything.

I had occasion to talk with Lieutenant Zavrazhin in connection with Pavlovskiy's misdemeanor. I even now remember the darkened face of the officer and the look full of anxious thoughtfulness. The lieutenant tried to find out from me whether he could have foreseen and prevented Pavlovskiy's misdemeanor and where he, as a commander, had gone wrong and what he must do

so that it would not be repeated in the future. These questions alone testify to much: to the desire to learn not only from positive experience but also from mistakes. This is a mature approach to work.

I am talking about an old case and again I think about an immutable truth: Relationships with people--this is the "touchstone" on which the facets of command character are checked and perfected. Zavrazhin showed that he would never bargain with his conscience by his principled and honest attitude toward his subordinate's misdemeanor. This, like many other items, exerted a great moral effect on his subordinates.

Yes, command qualities are visible most of all in relations with people. Here it's as if they are visible through and through--the exactingness and tactfulness of a commander, his ability to train and indoctrinate, and his active and vital position are distinctly visible.

Unfortunately, not all young officers immediately master this truth. Sr Lt Vitaliy Marchenko didn't have a bad knowledge of the equipment, he didn't lack energy and activity. However, let us say right out, he was still not on top of things in the subunit which he headed. As facts show, the poor knowledge of subordinates, the inability to rely on the aktiv, communists and Komsomol members, and the striving to embrace as many questions as possible--many of which the officers and sergeants subordinate to him could have solved--let the young officer down.

It turns out that the commander does not notice those processes which are occurring within the collective and that he does not try to delve deeply into relationships with people. When a breakdown occurs in some sector, Marchenko only sees those causes that lie on the surface.

Once staff officers came to the "site" to check how the remote garrison was preparing for the new training period. Quite a few deficiencies were noted. In particular, the training classroom was not fully equipped, several operating models were not in working order, and there was a shortage of diagrams and posters. Having pointed all this out to the company commander, the staff officers asked what kind of help he needed. Marchenko refused help. He believed that he would eliminate the shortcomings in a short time. However, when representatives of the headquarters again arrived at the site a month later, they saw little that had changed for the better in the training material base. Moreover, this time shortcomings were also detected in the maintenance of the equipment and in the performance of guard duties.

What were the reasons? It turns out that Marchenko worked at eliminating the deficiencies detected during our first visit with--so to say-- his sleeves rolled up. Each evening he stayed late in the classroom. He didn't have time to check the condition of the equipment carefully.

We asked the company commander: "Was it really not possible to entrust control over the equipping of the classroom to someone else?"

"I wanted to do everything as well as possible"

And this was at a time when there were at the "site" officers and warrant officers [praporshchiki] who had an excellent knowledge of electronic and radio technology and who had quite a few innovative suggestions to their credit. Among them were WO's Nikolay Gavrilenko and Nikolay Ishchenko whom the former commander jokingly called "honored innovators". Many models and stands which now required renovation were at one time made by them. As they say, these officers should know.... However, the company commander entrusted questions to them which sergeants solve in other subunits.

The indoctrination and training of fighting men is a complex and multifaceted sphere. One lieutenant, having arrived in the unit upon completion of school, dreams of getting a position where there are no subordinates. And having received it, he thinks: I am lucky. At one time Lt Genadiy Shirayev thought this way. But later he had to complain that his comrades were advancing in service but it was as if they had forgotten about him. Indeed, of course, they had not forgotten him, they simply considered that he did not have any experience in working with people.

I again return in my thoughts to the example of Valeriy Zavrazhin. He always strove to be where it was more difficult--where it was possible to acquire command experience as rapidly as possible. The company's party organization was his main support from the very beginning. He consulted communists on all important training and service questions.

Matters became better and better in the company which at one time was lagging behind. It happens, you will go there and something will invariably make you happy: here, there is an improvement in the combat control system, there, there is an interesting instructional methods find. However, the main thing is that a high level of discipline and combat readiness is maintained. The awarding of the order "For Service to the Motherland in the Armed Forces of the USSR," Thirdclass, to the company commander was a holiday for all the men.

Good traditions exist and are strengthened at the remote "site". Summer combat training tasks are being successfully solved, competition is being skilfully organized. Great credit is due here to Capt Aleksandr Musiyenko--Zavrazhin's successor. Let us add: He is a worthy successor.

But now we are thinking about whom to recommend to his place

8802
CSO: 1801

TRAINING IMPROVEMENTS IN GSFG AVIATION UNITS DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Jun 78 p 1

[Article by Maj G. Ivanov: "Purposefulness"]

[Text] Maj Ginnadiy Petrovich Ivanov has been appointed a permanent correspondent of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA for the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany.

We are publishing his first article today.

The fliers in the squadron headed by Maj A. Zozulya operated confidently at all altitudes--from low altitude to the stratosphere--when repulsing a massed "enemy" air strike. The flight under the command of Capt V. Zdanevich performed a complicated mission. A lightning attack decided the outcome of the battle. Capt P. Vilyukov especially distinguished himself. He accurately hit a maneuvering radio-controlled target with a missile strike. All other targets were also destroyed at the designated line with the first attack. The actions of the aviators during the exercises received an excellent rating.

When I met the fliers they were preparing to practice new assignments in the air. Major Zozulya was compiling a planning table for night flights under complicated meteorological conditions. While filling in the conventional symbols for the exercises, he explained: "Flight commander Captain Zdanevich must fly there and back very rapidly in order to refresh his instructor skills. He must prepare Senior Lieutenant Chasnyko to pass the examination for a firstclass rating." I found out here that the socialist obligations to raise rated qualifications in the squadron had been completely carried out. The preparation of Sr Lt Aleksandr Chasnyk and other fliers for a firstclass rating--this was already over and above the obligations.

A high frontier had been mastered. However, the people were already thinking about more. What is arousing them to new heights of combat perfection? Col Gen Avn Aleksandr Ivanovich Babayev, the GSFG Aviation commander, said the following during a conversation with me: "Purposefulness. The readiness

to perform an assigned task honorably. These qualities are clearly displayed in military affairs and testify to the active and vital position of Soviet fighting men."

Yes, the life and combat training of aviation fighting men are permeated with high party purposefulness. Now during the days of the summer training period, the commander and the party organization of the squadron are concentrating the efforts of the personnel on the struggle for the success of each combat training task and for the unconditional carrying out of socialist obligations. Using all forms and methods of ideological and indoctrinational work with people, party activists are trying to bring the significance of the trip by L. I. Brezhnev, the general secretary of the CC CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, out to Siberia and the Far East, the statements and conclusions in his speech to the 18th Komsomol Congress, and the profound thoughts and advice contained in the books "Malaya Zemlya" [Small Earth] and "Vozrozhdeniye" [Revival] to the awareness of the fighting men. The frontline experience in organizational and political work about which Leonid Il'ich talks with inspiring force in his works also exists and is effective today.

... The squadron commander, A. Zozulya, has been awarded the orders of the Red Star and "For Service to the Motherland in the Armed Forces of the USSR" thirdclass. These decorations were presented to the officer for his successes in mastering modern equipment and skilfully training and indoctrinating subordinates. However, high achievements in training and work do not come by themselves. It is necessary to begin mastering more complicated exercises on combat applications. Meanwhile the training of some fliers left much to be desired.

Consider, squadron commander, how to solve a problem which crops up. Major Zozulya reported his observations to the instructional methods council. He expressed the firm conviction that the main stress should be made on increasing the rated qualifications of the fliers. That the fliers achieve a high level of flight training means that they will be able to master complicated tactical principles in the shortest time possible. The regimental commander supported the suggestion. The recommendations of the instructional methods council on conducting special purpose flights were approved.

As a result aerial training improved noticeably: Four fliers out of every five became specialists firstclass. However, it is now necessary to maintain the aviators' training and their fighting form at the required level and each flight shift in good shape. The weather does not always favor flights. Where should one look for reserves in order to ensure the rhythm and quality of flight operations?

And so, another problem. They decided to discuss it at a party meeting. The communists expressed quite a few sensible suggestions whose essence was as follows: Capt A. Shipilin: "To work according to a sliding schedule," Capt A. Yevsyukov: "To use UTI-MIG-15 flying more actively," and

Capt V. Zdanevich: "To combine exercises more boldly." These and other suggestions were not taken off the wall. They were based on experience and confirmed by flight practices.

Let us say that indeed there were no cases when they hurried to call off flights because of the weather. But soon weather conditions improved and it was possible to fly. Or why isn't the UTI-MIG-15 used with greater intensity? This is also a help--and quite a bit--in supplementing training for supersonic flight.

No, they didn't simply transfer experience from yesterday to today. They made creative and purposeful use of it, considering the distinctive features of specific combat training tasks. Thus, when combining exercises in a flight mission, they strictly considered the instructional methods sequence in training, the individual peculiarities of a flier, and the level of his training. For example, they stipulated that the most experienced aviators, Capts A. Yevsyukov and V. Marudin, practice camera firing against ground targets in the vicinity of the airfield after they had intercepted targets. This helped them to master combat employment skills more rapidly. The suggestion of Lt. Col V. Bunin--to perform the flight to get the target in an aircraft with wing tanks--provided quite a saving in time. It permitted training in the air to be conducted with greater intensity and, in addition, achieve a savings in POL resources and material and technical equipment. The military work of the specialists to prepare the combat vehicles for flight and support the operations of the crew in the air is also noteworthy for its singleness of purpose and sense of personal responsibility for the task entrusted to them. In the squadron where Capt Tech Servs A. Kuz'menko heads the aviation technical service it was barely considered within the limits of probability that half of the helicopters would be excellent. Now, three out of every four are. Capt Tech Servs V. Kuznetsov and his subordinates have seen to it that all the helicopters in their flight are excellent.

Or let us take the technical maintenance unit of the N-skiy aviation regiment which has already held on to the title of excellent for ten years in a row. Here periodic technical servicing periods have been shortened by 30 percent and they are performed with a guarantee of quality. The aviation specialists turn in to the squadrons more than half of the aircraft with excellent ratings. However, the men do not rest content with what has been achieved, they search for unused reserves.

To skilfully master entrusted equipment and weapons and to be constantly combat ready to perform the most complicated task in modern combat--this is the slogan of the aviation fighting men who in a united formation with their brothers in arms vigilantly stand guard over the aerial frontiers of the countries of the socialist commonwealth.

8802

CSO: 1801

AVIATION REGIMENT TRAINING ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by Col A. Sorokin: "Air Training School: Superiority"]

[Text] There are no flights today, but the airfield roars with rolling thunder like a far-off front line during fire preparation. The regiment's aviation specialists are preparing equipment for an LTU--tactical flying exercise--under the direction of Gds Engr-Maj Aleksandr Terekhin. They "rev" the powerful engines in all modes, "flap" the wings of the fighters in testing the mechanisms for shifting them to various sweep angles, and ready the sight and navigation systems and weapons systems.

But there is a delicate silence among the pilots in the tactics classroom. Regimental commander Gds Col Vitmantas Moteka is assigning the pilots the mission for the LTU and just now is "placing" them in the general situation. A high intensity of attacks by "enemy" bomber aviation is expected.

"The actions of fighter-bombers of the opposing side over the battlefield are distinguished by special activeness," says the commander. "Capt Pashchenko's flight from 2d Squadron represents them for us. The 'enemy' is strong, possesses full initiative and often operates by the 'free hunting' method."

At these words the guards colonel looked searchingly at Gds Capt Vasiliy Boyko, commander of 1st Squadron, and barely noticeably smiled: a shadow of concern flitted over the squadron commander's young face. That meant the difficulty of the situation was at the maximum. The regimental commander added "metal" to his voice and concluded:

"The mission is to seize the initiative, clear the air space over the battlefield and subsequently maintain tactical superiority over the 'enemy.' The subunit commander is to report his decision at 1500."

The commander of 1st Squadron is young: He is 28. Both command and high party qualities appeared early in Vasiliy Boyko's character. He is demanding, tactful, energetic and calculating. Under him the squadron firmly holds first place in competition. Almost all pilots here are masters of combat application. They usually accomplish operational training missions with only outstanding marks.

And still, after receiving such a mission, pilots of 1st Squadron hesitated. It wasn't easy: all advantages had been placed in the "enemy's" hands! The squadron commander silently leafed through the pamphlet containing the generalized experience of tactical flying exercises.

"Our main trump is tactics," he said.

"Right!" A familiar voice was heard from the threshold: Gds Maj Yuriy Pushkarskiy, chief of the regiment's airborne weapons and tactical training, came over. "This is a wise weapon--tactics."

Squadron political officer Gds Maj Oleg Timofeyev began to speak softly as if thinking aloud:

"Yes, and what did our countrymen at the front begin the battle for air superiority with? In May 1942 a flight of seven headed by Maj Mel'nikov clashed with 27 enemy aircraft. Ours shot down five fascists and came out without losses. What helped them? Tactics, of course."

Boyko became animated:

"Let's also think not about how to make conditions easier for ourselves, but how to destroy the very first 'enemy' group. This is very important for seizing the initiative. Well then, let's begin simulating combat. Everyone think!"

The pilots were not silent for long. Suggestions poured forth. The majority of them reduced to arranging a trap for the "enemy": sending out a diversionary group, with the attack group behind it.

Gds Maj Pushkarskiy suggested first analyzing the logic of the "enemy's" behavior. Would he be tempted by easy prey? Wouldn't he suspect this very trap? Deputy squadron commander Gds Maj Vasiliy Galenko objected: why wouldn't the "hunters" attack a pair which were scouts, judging from their attempt to evade battle no matter what? For an "enemy" sure of his superiority, such conduct was fully logical. It was just the pair's maneuver for avoiding attack which had to be calculated carefully. First of all, this evasion had to appear authentic and secondly, it had to lead the "enemy" group into a calibrated missile attack by fighters following the pair.

Meanwhile Boyko already was jotting down a sketch of the joining of battle. The pair would describe a sharp left turn of 90 degrees in the radar field of the fighter-bombers' sights. The squadron commander would hold the attack group for the time being beyond limits of the detection zone. But as soon as the "enemy" began to pursue the pair, Boyko would boldly go into the attack.

"Interesting," remarked Pushkarskiy, but shook his head doubtfully. "I agree that uncertainty is not inherent to the psychology of an enemy who has the initiative. But, comrade engineer-pilots, why don't you allow a so-called

illogicality in his actions? For he is crafty. He will just not be tempted by your lure, but will go straight ahead. Where? Well if only to assault this strongpoint here."

"We'll put a trap in his path," reflected the squadron commander. "Malyshev will meet him here."

And again the pilots thought about how best to close the "trap." Finally a rough draft of this model also was ready. But Pushkarskiy, who nodded approvingly, again fixed a slightly crafty gaze at the map. Boyko smiled understandingly: again the "enemy" was displaying obstinacy. As a matter of fact, why should he get into a frontal attack? No, playing the part of the opposing side, one never plays into one's hands. In the place of the fighter-bombers, how was it possible to best manage to attack the strongpoint? To the left was a zone of AAA fire. But it was possible to pass to the right, behind the hill. It was here that the "enemy" had to be met at low altitude. And to deny him a way out of this trap, the squadron commander concerned himself with building up the attack.

When the plan was ready, the pilots played it out together with CP officers O. Demidko and V. Kuznetsov. They reproduced all the unusual maneuvers on aircraft models with great enthusiasm and did not conceal their satisfaction at the novelty of the tactics. But the squadron commander kept forcing them to replay it. There was something in these endless repetitions he didn't like. An artist thus sometimes looks for just where to put the last stroke without which the picture does not leave an impression of being finished.

"Come on, act more dynamically in the 'enemy's' place!" ordered Boyko.

It turned out that this is what was lacking--swiftness of the "enemy's" maneuvers in all the situations. The acuteness of the time deficit forced the leaders to be more decisive.

"And now Vasiliy Adamovich," said Boyko, turning to his deputy, Gds Maj Galenko, who also was acting squadron navigator, "prepare calculations for combat maneuvering and convert this plan of ours into the language of figures."

The regimental commander heard 1st Squadron commander's report about his decision and uttered: "Curious" and "Original." He advised thinking up a countermove in case the "enemy" broke up his group. At the end he asked where the young commander had received such correct orientation in tactics.

"The school of Maj Popov, an instructor of our school--the Kacha School--and of Gds Maj Pushkarskiy," answered Boyko, smiling. "But this plan was the fruit of collective imagination. For one only has to deviate from a customary stereotype and pilots immediately have so many ideas!"

Vasiliy Nikitovich returned home late, but with the conviction that the squadron was fully prepared for tomorrow's LTU. Both the people and the

equipment. But still he was uneasy. First of all, the weather was unstable. Even the weather forecasters could not accurately predict whether or not the low-pressure area would remain over the sea for another day or two, and what if it moved its entire frontal overcast into the flight area! Then they would have to give up a bit of the spice in the battle plan.

He also was pestered by thoughts of the "enemy." What had he conceived? Officers Pashchenko, Smirnov and Semenyuk, masters from 2d Squadron with whom he had stretched his legs that evening in the corridor, made witty remarks: Get out of the way, the masters of the sky are coming! It also was not for nothing, of course, that they had sat up until very late. They would bypass all traps and snares tomorrow and strike. But from which direction? And the brain, like an EVM [electronic computer] which has been given a program of logical-mathematical analysis of an endless multitude of complex combinations, tries and tries to decide for the "enemy" which move is most rational for him.

The next day (which was fine, by the way) everything was decided in a few tens of seconds. The "enemy" detected the fighters on the meeting course. The latter did not accept battle but departed sharply to the left. It must be that those were scouts from 1st Squadron. Not seeing other targets on the sight scopes, the "hunters" switched on afterburners and took off in pursuit. But hardly had he managed to turn when the "enemy" came under missile attack of the group which Gds Capt Boyko was leading at low altitude right after the "scouts."

The leader of the "hunters" did not immediately believe that all of them had been "destroyed" at some instant. Boyko handed him the films of the automatic recorders. Sparks of satisfaction with the victory were really darting about in the squadron commander's gaze.

"Hm, from that position..." said Pashchenko, bewildered, "a surprise of the new equipment."

"And tactics," prompted Boyko.

"Yes," agreed the "enemy" unwillingly. "You caught us on a minnow. But here is what we planned: to attack the strongpoint from the move, from a steep climb. It wouldn't have worked? Then from a right combat turn. What? You were expecting us there as well? Well I see you surpassed us! Never mind, we'll have at you another time."

6904

CSO: 1801

RADAR COMPANY TRAINING WEAKNESSES DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Jul 78 p 1

[Article by Lt Col L. Golovnev and Lt Col V. Shtepo: "Just Why Didn't a Good Tradition Take Root?"]

[Text] We were in this radar company at the beginning of March, when spring was just beginning to arrive. Everything here was in bloom. An apple tree which grew near the sports compound gladdened the eye with its beautiful white attire.

"Our commander planted it when the company achieved the title of outstanding," we were told by WO P. Gir'ko, secretary of the Komsomol bureau. "We wanted to make this a tradition: to mark the company's successes by a ceremonial planting of young fruit trees. But nothing came of it."

We understood Gir'ko's thoughts: for five years now the company had not been able to get back its lost positions and achieve the title of outstanding. Perhaps the frequent change of commanders was the cause of that? No one stayed here for long. The present commander, Sr Lt M. Gusmarov, took the company a year ago. Had he succeeded in turning it around? No. This was also shown by the last check made by the unit staff. The radar operators essentially remained at the very same positions as previously.

We saw portraits of Sgt N. Semenov, Sgt I. Putrin and Pfc M. Khvan in the Path of Outstanding Personnel. They had been released to the reserve back in November. Emptiness yawned on the display in the Lenin room where names of the best specialists were supposed to have been. Company commander Sr Lt Gusmarov just could not say who the best specialists in the company were.

"This spring is unusual for us," said the company commander in justification. "Snow and downpours disrupted classes. Give us time. This summer we will make up for lost time and go far ahead."

And so three months passed. We again visited this site in the latter half of June. Just what had changed? Visual agitation had been renewed in the compound. The personnel's socialist pledges for the summer training period

and for each month individually could be seen in the most prominent place. On the whole, these pledges were lower than those which the radar operators had made in the winter. For example, not one subunit in the company was striving to become outstanding. Even the subordinates of Lt V. Osipenko, whose portrait was placed in the Path of Glory, had not made pledges to struggle again for an outstanding subunit.

"Young soldiers came to us and we still don't know how they will be," said the lieutenant when we asked him why the best collective had made understated pledges.

Sr Lt Gusmarov was even more frank: "There are a few outstanding personnel in the company, but the rest are not trying, and that's the whole secret."

This statement did not tie in in any way with the opinion which we heard in higher headquarters. Maj V. Koval', who previously had checked the company, said: "You can move mountains with the people of this site. You should have seen how precisely they operated in past exercises." We checked with Sr Lt Gusmarov as to which of the operators had distinguished himself in the exercise.

"It isn't worthwhile to identify anyone. Everyone acted in exemplary fashion," came the answer.

Fours alone stood opposite the soldiers' names in the list reflecting exercise results. It turns out that everyone worked identically: both Specialist 1st Class Sgt V. Shvets and Pvt V. Flyakin, who just pledged to become a 3d Class specialist. As it turned out, Lt R. Yusupov's subordinates made a number of mistakes in the exercise and executed some commands late. But all of them also received good marks.

Two operators--Pvt G. Pak and Pvt M. Solod, who previously had not been known for their expertise, showed stable work in the exercise and kept within the norm of 2d Class. They also were graded with a good mark. But the commander could have noted them in particular and could have said a good word for them.

There are foremost crews in the company. One of them is headed by Sgt Shvets. His subordinates always overfulfill all operational training missions and norms. Just what is the reason for the success? Sr Lt Gusmarov believes that Sgt Shvets was simply lucky and allegedly received the best crew, which was commanded by Sgt Putrin. But it is impossible to ignore the fact that the indicators achieved by the crew under Sgt Shvets' leadership are higher than previous ones.

As it turned out, several rationalization suggestions had been introduced in this crew which significantly simplified erection of masts and orientation of the entire antenna system. There also are valuable innovations in the methodology of practices which Sgt Shvets applied. Unfortunately, this crew's experience has not found proper dissemination in the company.

Competitiveness in classes noticeably livened up in the company on the eve of the exercise and competitions for best team and best specialist began to be held. Lt Osipenko made it a practice to have competitive accomplishment of operational training missions. Who would perform all operations fastest and most accurately and would issue the most correct coordinates? These contests among the operators had a positive effect on development of their expertise. It was not by chance that privates Pak and Solod kept within the norm of 2d Class in the exercise.

But then the exercise was past and Lt Osipenko ceased to hold contests for best operator. All this was with the tacit consent of the company commander.

We visited the military construction personnel on the eve of the exercise. We saw a chart of indicators for the day, week and month on the building's facade. Company commander Lt L. Pushte told about the great mobilizing effect of the indicator chart. The important thing here was that each person saw what he and his comrades had achieved. Short tactical training problems and summarization of results are held next to the chart. Military construction personnel come here to compare their achievements with those of the leaders.

It would appear that the very same chart could be introduced in the radar company as well, for the work of operators also can be expressed both graphically and in figures.

When we mentioned this to Sr Lt Gusmarov, he objected: allegedly there was too great a gap in the expertise of operators with different years of service. "And there is no reason for us to have a chart. Everyone knows the best specialists and their achievements," he concluded.

Of course, it is still possible to ponder the question of the chart. It is poor, however, that one does not see in the company the desire for a creative search in organization of competition, and particularly in improving the methodology of summarizing its results. Unfortunately, both the party organization secretary, Lt R. Yusupov, and the Komsomol bureau secretary, WO P. Gir'ko, remain aloof from this.

When we departed from the site we again caught sight of the solitary apple tree and the thought occurred to us that it would already have been possible to raise a fruit orchard on this spot. It is a pity that a good tradition begun by the first commander just did not receive further development at the site.

6904

CSO: 1801

ANTENNA MAINTENANCE SUGGESTION IGNORED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Correspondent Engr-Maj O. Bobrakov: "The Price of Red Tape: Why an Innovation Capable of Providing a Savings of State Funds and Time and Increasing Work Quality Has Not Been Introduced for Three Years"]

[Text] There are various antennas. Among them are small metal rods the size of a pencil and structures on masts several tens of meters high. Such antennas also are included in the troop antenna inventory. Inclined guy cables support the mast in a vertical position. To prevent them from breaking inadvertently (then the mast might collapse), they must be inspected periodically, joints lubricated, insulators cleaned and their fittings touched up. In short, it is necessary to perform periodic technical servicing or, as the specialists call it, an inspection. In what manner? For the corresponding assemblies are elevated to a very significant height. A solution was found which, frankly speaking, was not too clever. The procedures which have been in effect for around a quarter century already suggest attaching a temporary guy, removing the main guy and performing all work on the ground.

It is fully understandable that in many cases such a process creates a heap of complications. The gear operating on the antenna has to be switched off for a lengthy period of time while servicing is performed. It happens that 12-15 guys are inspected on one mast alone, while in some antenna facilities the overall number of guys comes to several tens. It is a troublesome and very arduous task to remove and replace each of them separately.

But can't the work be done without removing the guys? Specialists have pondered this question for a long while. Rationalizers of one of the units responsible for maintaining antenna facilities also looked for more sophisticated methods of inspecting guys. And so Engr-Lt Col Ye. Zinov'yev proposed an interesting solution. With the help of comrades he made operating models of the device and tested them on the job. The results were promising. With the help of Zinov'yev's device, it became possible to perform the inspection in short periods of time without violating safety rules using the servicing personnel and without removing the guys.

The suggestion was thoroughly analyzed, a conclusion drawn as to its usefulness and its economic effectiveness assessed. In a trial introduction the latter was tens of thousands of rubles.

Soon Engr-Lt Col Zinov'yev was issued a patent for the invention with the number 527505 under the title "Device for Servicing Mast Guys While in Use," with a priority of April 1975. In 1976 the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of State Patent Examination published the contents of the invention in its Bulletin No. 33. The journal TEKNIKA I VOORUZHENIYE reported on the new device. The USSR Ministry of Communications and other organizations became interested in the invention.

And so three years passed. We asked what contribution Zinov'yev's invention had made to the saving of state funds. It turned out that there was none. Moreover, there are no plans to introduce it. There are no plans in the very place where it, strictly speaking, was born and where at one time a weighty conclusion was drawn as to its usefulness. Just what is the problem? Have those in the unit really reconsidered and rejected their initial conclusions?

Anything can happen in real life, as they say. Perhaps some objective reasons arose which hinder adoption of the innovation. Perhaps it is imperfect in the technical sense or does not satisfy the norms of safety precautions. We turned to the documents. They convince us of the opposite. Here is the conclusion as to usefulness signed by the unit commander. Here are the queries to Kotlonadzor [expansion unknown] of the Ministry of Defense and to the design institute on the subject of assessing the safety of its use, and positive responses of the corresponding organizations. Here is a conclusion about the economic effectiveness of the proposed method, on the basis of which the author received a monetary reward.

"Well what if we did sign the petition and offer a conclusion as to usefulness?" we were told in the unit. "We signed it when Zinov'yev left for the reserve. We did him a favor and later we ourselves regretted it." As it turned out, they regretted it because "Zinov'yev is not a mechanical engineer by education," "he did not work alone, but did not include anyone as coauthors" and "he is generally a private person to us." Then they showed diagrams of still another new method and cited comparative specifications proving its advantages over Zinov'yev's method.

Innovators, of course, are inquisitive and seeking people. Something can be found in three years that is better. That is just what they tried to assure me of in the unit. But it very quickly turned out that the new method existed for now only on paper. It had not even been discussed in the unit inventions commission, not to mention coordination with other organizations or a practical test. Does it make any sense in this case to speak about its advantages? And so it turns out that all this time they were rejecting the real "good" solution merely for the sake of the conjectured "better" solution.

But just how is the work done in fact? As estimates show, expenses have not been reduced. That means they are working under the old method, with replacement of guys, and a great deal of time continues to be spent on the inspection?

"Not at all!" says Officer M. Pivnichenko reassuringly. "No one removes the guys. Our subcontractor has found another method."

It must be said that it is a very original method. The subcontracting organization hires mountain climbers. They "improve their expertise" by scaling the guys in a suspended state and at the same time they perform the work. They demand a firm price "for the risk" and their pay is figured on the basis that they are replacing guys. On the other hand, they say "they guarantee" quality. It is true that this is in words: it is hard to check--can you see a great deal from the ground?

Mountain climbers in the role of moonlighters [shabashniki] apparently do not disconcert the subcontractor--the construction organization headed by Comrade Yu. Pankin. Yes, there they are familiar with Zinov'yev's proposal, assessed its economic effectiveness and paid the author a reward. But it appears for some reason inconvenient for the subcontractor to introduce the innovation. "Then there would be no need for our participation," clarifies Comrade Pankin, "inasmuch as Zinov'yev's method will allow getting by with the resources of servicing personnel in servicing the guys. It follows that this is a concern primarily of those who are responsible for maintaining the antenna facilities. In the final account they are the ones who pay the moonlighters".

But Officer M. Pivnichenko, who is responsible for maintaining the antenna facilities, continues to regard his position as invulnerable. "We pay within the limits of approved estimates, and it is not our business how the subcontractor spends the money. Let them even put a mountain climber on each insulator." That is the approximate meaning of his arguments. And as can be seen, no special concern is generated here by the fact that available opportunities to save much state money and increase the effectiveness and quality of work have not found practical application here for a long while.

Well then, everyone involved in the "prolongations" give a multitude of reasons to justify their actions or, more correctly, their inaction. Inaction which is absolutely incompatible with the state approach to the matter, which requires each of us to do our official and party duty.

6904
CSO: 1801

EFFECTIVENESS OF SOCIALIST COMPETITION IN THE TRANSCAUCASUS M.D. DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jul 78 p 2

[Article: "In the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy: Improve the Organization of Socialist Competition"]

[Text] The Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy examined the question of the work of political organs and party organizations of air units of the Transcaucasus Military District in fulfilling requirements placed on development of socialist competition in the Army and Navy at the present stage. Maj Gen Avn Yu. Fotinov, chief of political department of district aviation, gave a briefing on this matter.

It was noted that commanders, political organs and party and Komsomol organizations were conducting diversified work to further improve the organization of socialist competition in units and subunits, guided by decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, the Letter of the CPSU CC, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol CC on development of competition in 1978, and requirements of the USSR Minister of Defense and Chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy. A positive point is the fact that the study of guideline documents on competition and training in the methodology of its organization is conducted in a differentiated manner with different categories of commanders, political workers and the party aktiv. At the initiative of political department of district aviation, conditions have been worked out for determining winners in competition by air arms for best unit, squadron, air regiment TECH [technical maintenance unit], battalion and company. Competition among squadrons, flights and crews in the basic types of combat application received further development.

Competitors are informed more fully than before as to the status of affairs and indicators of their rivals. A more specific record of current achievements is being kept in subunits and staffs and a system for summarizing results is being improved. Forms of moral incentives for competitors are being used more vigorously. Winners are honored in a ceremony according to developed rituals and rallies are held for outstanding personnel and production leaders. All this led to a situation where district air units achieved good indicators in combat training.

The work being done by political organs and party organizations of district air units to develop socialist competition was assessed positively on the whole during the discussion. Meanwhile it was noted that not all available reserves still had been used in this important matter and that shortcomings had not been eliminated. Direction of competition in some units does not correspond to present demands. It is important to bear in mind that these requirements assume a concentration of attention not so much on quantitative indicators as on qualitative ones, on a thorough delving into the essence of competition and on using its enormous mobilizing and indoctrinational capabilities. Underestimation of this has a negative effect on competition effectiveness. Elements of formalism and stereotypes still have not been eliminated in a number of cases--pledges often bear a general nature and are reduced to a limited number of indicators: increase in numbers of outstanding personnel, rated specialists or ranking sportsmen. They poorly reflect the specific nature, weapons or type of missions to be performed by subunits and units. Progress in fulfillment of pledges made for a prolonged period or in comparing them with final results and results of the day is not always analyzed for flights, in fulfilling the norms or in performing periodic technical servicing.

Not all political organs and party organizations exert effective influence on establishing high exactingness and objectivity in assessing the results of combat training or competition or in determining outstanding personnel, subunits and units. In some units many of those who have been declared outstanding do not confirm this high title.

Special attention was directed to the fact that indoctrinational capabilities of competition are poorly realized, that its influence on the shaping of political awareness and moral growth of soldiers is insufficient, as is its effect on making military collectives cohesive and strengthening discipline.

It was emphasized during the discussion that political organs and party organizations must continue to improve persistently the organization of competition in conformity with directions of the 25th CPSU Congress; directions of subsequent party and government documents; statements and recommendations expressed by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev during his trip to areas of Siberia and the Far East and in his speech at the 18th Komsomol Congress; and with requirements placed on organization of socialist competition in the Armed Forces. We must constantly enrich it with new content, develop its forms innovatively, and tie it in more closely with tasks of combat training and personnel indoctrination. Step up efforts in developing the movement for foremost formation and activate imaginative competition among units and subunits, pilots, technicians and other aviation specialists in the struggle to master combat equipment. Do not let up in the work of training officer personnel and the party aktiv in the methodology of organizing competition--herein lies an important reserve for increasing competition effectiveness. It is especially important to focus attention on such matters as expanding the contents of individual and collective pledges, improving the process by which they are elaborated and accepted, deepening all day-to-day organizational work ensuring fulfillment of pledges, and improving the system for summarizing results in all structural elements.

Political organs and party organizations are called upon to exert their constant and persistent influence on all aspects of competition, see to it that all party members are at the head of competitors, stimulate the desire to achieve more and attain new goals, and establish in the collective a spirit of self-criticism and exactingness in assessing the results achieved and those who attain 'excellent' marks and competition winners. It is important to master the ability for thorough analysis of the causes for nonfulfillment of pledges, to outline effective steps to eliminate shortcomings, and to be more objective in generalizing and disseminating the experience of the leaders and winners, as well as of skilled competition organizers. Assistance to lagging subunits and units must be more specific right on the spot. Supervision must not be relaxed over pledge fulfillment by foremost units, especially by competition initiators. We must make wider use of all forms and methods of propaganda, of oral and visual agitation, of individual indoctrinational work and the capabilities of cultural enlightenment establishments in order to invigorate competition. As always, there is an invariable requirement placed on competition organizers to ensure wide publicity, comparability of results and the opportunity for practical repetition of foremost experience, and this must be given daily attention, with the assurance that all this work acquires constancy and a harmonious system.

With consideration of this fact, it was noted during discussion of the question at hand that under present-day conditions there is a sharp increase in the importance of the indoctrinational function of competition and there is a need for fuller and more persistent use of its capacity for influencing the nonmaterial world of service personnel. An improvement in the ideological-political, military and moral indoctrination of personnel is inseparable from their participation in competition. We must direct the activities of party and Komsomol members toward a struggle for honor, dignity, faultless behavior, observance of the norms of communist ethics, and an increase in the political and cultural level. We must broaden the participation of service personnel in social life and purposefully mold their active position in life in the course of competition. In so doing we must be guided by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's statement that "competition is an irreplaceable means for indoctrinating a new person. It assists his political growth and moral improvement."

It was emphasized during the discussion that the struggle for high intensity and effectiveness of competition depends largely on how concretely party committees and bureaus influence the work of Komsomol and trade union organizations, elevate their role in competition and make use of their capabilities to mobilize Komsomol members, workers and employees to fulfill pledges and strengthen discipline.

The entire system of organizational and political work of political organs and party organizations must be used to ensure a further uplift in socialist competition among troop units and complete fulfillment of pledges made and, on this basis, to bring the combat readiness of subunits and units up to a new level.

6904

CSO: 1801

HELICOPTER SQUADRON TRAINING ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA IN Russian 13 Jul 78 p 1

[Article by deputy squadron commander Maj V. Trusov, Military Pilot 1st Class, Order of Lenin Moscow Military District: "Assistance From a Veteran"]

[Text] Helicopter pilot-navigator Sr Lt K. Gorodetskiy did a fine job that day. He flawlessly performed a difficult exercise under instrument weather conditions. The crew commander highly rated the aviator's performance. And this success really inspired the young officer. I was also happy for him, for quite recently this pilot's performance was not too good.

I remember one exercise. Although the weather and the tactical situation were difficult, the crews were able to accomplish the assigned mission. But after landing I saw that Maj B. Pavlovskiy was concerned about something. I asked him what the problem was. It seems that Maj B. Pavlovskiy, crew commander, was unhappy because pilot Gorodetskiy had committed some errors on the mission.

It is of course difficult to gain one's bearings in the air when there is inadequate opportunity to check one's calculations with visual observations. Hence the young officer's feelings of uncertainty. Suddenly he messed up something in his calculations and drifted off course. At such moments one sometimes even has doubts about accurate instrument readings.

And yet the day before, when the crew was making socialist pledges for this exercise, Gorodetskiy had promised to earn a high mark. But the difficulties which arose during the flight unsettled the aviator.

How did Major Pavlovskiy proceed? Knowing that Gorodetskiy was sufficiently skilled in piloting, the crew commander asked his assistant to take over the controls, while he proceeded to perform navigator duties. The major flawlessly calculated the course. Through his personal example he taught the young officer to perform skilled, concise actions in a difficult situation.

When the flight was over Pavlovskiy calmly analyzed his subordinate's mistakes and their causes. He then advised him on how to correct his deficiencies

in navigator proficiency. With the most active assistance and support on the part of his superior, Gorodetskiy improved his skills from one flight to the next, and in time achieved excellent results in combat training and became a proficiency-rated specialist.

This is a commonplace example, but it is characteristic of relations in our military collective. Comradely mutual assistance and solicitous concern by the veterans toward the younger men promote success in combat improvement. All helicopter commanders in the squadron are specialists 1st class. Lt Col A. Aleksentsev and Majs B. Pavlovskiy and E. Bulygin have logged more than 3000 hours. These expert pilots generously share their know-how with their comrades.

Take Major Bulygin, for example. He skillfully executes training flights involving combat maneuvering at treetop level. Pilot-navigator Sr Lt A. Yepifanov is not yet capable of performing such missions. Nor does the major demand the impossible of him. Step by step he is helping Yepifanov improve to the level of his own skill. From the simple to the complex is one of the importance principles of flight training. The experienced instructor always bears in mind thereby that any tactical maneuver mastered by a young pilot should be employed taking into account the air and ground situation.

I know this from my own experience. I have on many occasions performed training flights at extremely low altitude together with pilot-navigator Capt V. Simanin. It is very important here to approach the target with the element of surprise, by the shortest route. But it is necessary to employ this maneuver in conformity with the specifics of the concrete mission. We were preparing for a mission departure during a combined-arms tactical exercise. Simanin was laying out the route. Without any hesitation he drew a straight line on the map, designating the shortest distance to the objective. But he failed to take into consideration thereby that "enemy" antiaircraft defense weapons were deployed in that direction. I drew his attention to the fact that it would be better to choose another, tactically more advantageous route. I substantiated my argument with the fact that, although we would be traveling to the target not by the shortest route, we would be concealed and at extremely low altitudes. During the flight Simanin saw that the suggested route variant was more advisable.

Extensive socialist competition constitutes a major stimulus for improving air proficiency. We made tough pledges for the summer training period. Although our squadron has borne the title of excellent for several years in a row and has not had any mishaps for a long period of time, the men are thinking about greater achievements and are seeking unutilized reserve potential. And we consider comradely assistance by the veterans to the younger men to be one of the principal reserves. In organizing training classes and practice drills on the ground and work on exercises in the air, we seek to achieve extensive publicity and comparability of results. He who achieves better performance results should assist his comrade. This slogan has taken firm root in the collective.

I should like to compliment the performance of our technicians and mechanics. The majority of the squadron's aircrew technicians are specialists 1st and 2d class, while Capts Tech Serv Yu. Nikitin, V. Osintsev and Ye. Kholodkov have a master proficiency rating. They do much to improve the technical proficiency of the mechanics -- enlisted personnel, noncommissioned officers in their compulsory term of service, and warrant officers -- and take active part in the activities of the technical study group under the supervision of squadron engineer Maj Tech Serv N. Tolpegin. With the aid of the veterans, the young mechanics reinforce their theoretical knowledge with practical experience servicing helicopters, and quickly become squared away in their job. At the present time more than 70% of mechanics in the squadron are high proficiency rating specialists.

All summer combat training in our subunit is permeated with party concern for developing ideologically-toughened fighting men who possess a consummate mastery of modern equipment and weapons. The party bureau, headed by Maj Tech Serv N. Tolpegin, constantly maintains an attention focus on problems of indoctrination of young pilots, technicians and mechanics. At the initiative of the Communists the activities of the technical study groups aimed at improving the proficiency ratings of the lower-level aviation specialists were stepped up. The party bureau regularly publicizes the experience and know-how of the best performers. For example, carrying out a party assignment during a recent tactical exercise, party member Ye. Kholodkov shared with the young specialists his experience and know-how in readying a helicopter for departure while in the field. Flight leader party member Maj N. Sopov had an interesting discussion with young pilots on landing in an area of limited size. The squadron's Communists set the tone in training and service, are right-flankers in competition, display an example of exemplary performance of assigned tasks, unify the military collective, and strengthen friendship and military comradeship.

The efforts of the aviators are focused on the main task -- further improvement of the squadron's combat readiness. With the aid of their older comrades, our young pilots, technicians and mechanics are making a contribution toward accomplishment of this task.

3024

CSO: 1801

NAVAL TRAINING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Vigilance by Naval Crews Stressed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by Capt 3d Rank V. Dobrovol'skiy, commander of large guided-missile ship "Smelyy": "Vigilance Is Our Weapon: Norm of Behavior"]

[Text] A cool morning wind chased torn shreds of haze. The first rays of the rising sun illuminated the reddish-green dome of a rocky islet visible in the distance. The anchorage at one of the points of the Mediterranean was a small breather for the crew, who had worked strenuously in accomplishing the tasks of the many days of deployment. But rest is rest, and service is service, and until the signal to up-anchor sounded aboard ship, the entire burden of service lay on the shoulders of those who were now standing watch.

Blips appeared on the radar screens from time to time: NATO ships were maneuvering in the area. Watch officer Sr Lt P. Butkus carefully analyzed the radar operators' reports. Suddenly one of the ships abruptly changed course and began moving toward our anchorage. Soon the signalmen reported:

"The nuclear-powered cruiser 'California' is approaching our ship at high speed!"

When I ascended into the pilot house, the watch officer already had taken steps stemming from the situation at hand. Work was in full swing everywhere.

The nuclear-powered cruiser closed right in on us, then began to pass by at a close distance from the side of the "Smelyy." Our navymen acted confidently and competently, in conformity with norms of international law. The flag signal corresponding to the situation was hoisted without delay. The cruiser moved off to one side and did not approach us again.

Various episodes arise during a ship's long deployment far from her native land. No matter where we have had to accomplish operational training

missions, we sacredly fulfill Lenin's behest as to the need to be always on guard. We remember the Constitution's demand: It is the duty of the USSR Armed Forces to the people to defend reliably the socialist homeland and be in constant combat readiness guaranteeing an immediate rebuff to any aggressor.

Vigilance is a most important element of combat readiness. It is displayed daily, hourly, and every minute far from native shores not in words, but in specific deeds. We are obligated to be vigilant by the oath and military regulations. But this also must become a moral standard of behavior for every navyman, and this is ensured by purposeful indoctrination work.

Such work becomes especially vigorous aboard our ship after departing for sea. And at the beginning of the last long deployment there was a party meeting at which we discussed the party members' tasks to increase vigilance and to keep weapons and equipment in high combat readiness. Party activists arranged the first discussions with the navymen on this topic after passing the straits. Each person who had been in the straits at least once would invariably see that Soviet ships were met here by a launch. The people aboard the launch would take pictures from various angles, using sophisticated technology.

There are even more such illustrations and discussions when we begin to encounter NATO ships. But no matter how graphic the facts are, they require precise political assessment and must be deeply understood by each person. This goal is served by planned mass political work organized by the ship's political deputy, Capt-Lt L. Malayeshtyash together with the party bureau secretary, WO I. Chorny, who was a delegate to the 25th CPSU Congress. For example, the navymen listened with great interest to briefings by officers A. Tararin, V. Polyakov and I. Pekshin on the topics: "V. I. Lenin on Vigilance," "Vigilance on a Long Deployment is the Guarantee for Successful Mission Accomplishment," and "Communist Conviction is the Foundation of Political Vigilance."

Department heads and chiefs of services regularly familiarize the navymen with the situation in the deployment area and assign specific tasks to the personnel. We use particular care and refer to instructive examples in briefing the navymen whose stations include means of observation of the surface, underwater and air situation; the missile, torpedo and gun systems; and those who ensure that the ship has her given speed. And this is understandable. The combat readiness and navigational safety of the ship, timely detection of targets and success in employing weapons depends primarily on these personnel.

Of course, the work aimed at developing the personnel's sense of personal responsibility for increasing the ship's combat readiness cannot be limited to discussions and briefings. In order for unrelenting vigilance to become the standard of each navyman's day-to-day behavior, we must organize service precisely and concern ourselves with the quality of practice sessions, especially when we practice techniques for repelling surprise

attacks from beneath the water or from the air. Subunit commanders persistently see to it that teams detect every target at maximum range, maintain persistent contact with it, and are able to employ weapons effectively.

A special chart has been developed for monitoring the standing of underway watch aboard ship, and all officers and warrant officers are guided by it. Each instance where vigilance is dulled during watch is noted in the chart and then analyzed in detail at a critique and when competition results are summarized.

Frankly speaking, at first some considered such steps to be a certain over-insurance. The officers' control was not always strict, which sometimes led to deviations from instructions.

Here is but one episode. The ship got into a heavy storm during the first weeks of deployment. All systems were working excellently and for this reason apparently Engr-Lt V. Chekrizov, the watch engineering officer, did not conduct an additional briefing, nor did he take steps to reinforce control over watch-standing at the machinery. The department head did not point out to the young officer in good time that such an approach to things was inadmissible under storm conditions.

Then the ship was lashed by an enormous wave. Salt water got into one of the generators. It had to be shut down immediately and the salt cleaned from it, but the engineering department specialists did not notice what had happened in time and were late in cleaning the assembly.

This episode served as the subject of a sharp conversation at a party bureau session. Party members V. Chekrizov and V. Sitnikov had to give a strict accounting of their mistakes. The navymen who reduced vigilance on the watch were given disciplinary punishment. At the party bureau's recommendation, the question of personal responsibility of Komsomol members for strict observance of rules of vigilance while standing watch was discussed in subunit Komsomol organizations.

The lesson hit home. Proper conclusions were drawn not only by engineering department navymen, but also by personnel of other subunits. The slightest displays of negligence began to be halted more decisively. And the results were not long in coming.

Once, for example, during a very fierce storm when the ship was listing 45 degrees, Master of Combat Qualification WO A. Rozhdestvenskiy noticed a variance in parameters in the operation of one of the units. Together with the group leader, Sr Lt I. Korolev, the warrant officer quickly found the reason for the irregularity and possible equipment malfunction was prevented.

Sonarmen warrant officers G. Tarabuyev and A. Raspopin displayed great vigilance during an exercise. In a difficult situation they managed to detect a high-speed "enemy" submarine quickly and they maintained reliable contact

with her for a long while. This allowed the crew to accomplish the operational training mission successfully.

In accomplishing ocean deployments, our ships often make business calls and official visits to foreign ports. This imposes a special responsibility on the navymen, who act as distinctive representatives of their country. During the days of the visit--both aboard ship and on shore leave--they meet and converse with thousands of foreigners--citizens of the given country and tourists from other states. Our navymen invariably show political maturity, a broad cultural horizon and other noble traits of Soviet character.

It is customary for us aboard ship to consider preparations for a visit to a foreign port to be an organic part of the system of measures ensuring success of a long deployment. That is how it was during the visit to the port of Algiers. Navy men who had already been abroad more than once, such as WO I. Chornyy, shared their impressions with the novices and gave advice as to how to conduct themselves in a particular situation. We worked out the plan for meeting the populace aboard ship in such a way that the guests could have a look at everything of greatest interest--with consideration of course for ordinary rules--and could converse with any person. Each navyman was ready to come to the aid of the visitors. And this assistance was required. When a six-year-old boy suddenly fell overboard from the helicopter pad, Lt O. Vishnevskiy, the watch officer at the gangway, immediately saw this in the enormous stream of guests, threw himself into the water without even removing his parade jacket or dirk, and saved the boy.

We drew up a schedule for navy men to visit the city with consideration of ship's rules. All crew members without exception spent time ashore. Naturally, much time and effort during the visit was given to meeting guests aboard ship and arranging strolls through the city. Nevertheless, organization of service and the level of equipment maintenance did not drop for a moment. Engineering department specialists headed by Officer V. Sitnikov reliably provided the ship with electrical power, refrigeration and different air pressures. The ship was ready at the very first command to lift anchor and move to sea.

Now the "Smelyy" is accomplishing missions of the summer training period. It is both our sacred duty and moral standard of behavior to stand watch vigilantly and be in constant combat readiness.

Baltic Fleet Recreational Area Criticized

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jul 78 p 4

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Correspondent Capt 1st Rank N. Remizov: "In the Wake of a Letter: Without a Host"]

[Text] Tikhomirova, Tsyganenko, Yeremina and others write to the editors: "One can only spoil one's rest at

the 'Yantarnyy Bereg' Tourist Base of the Baltic Fleet. No sports or mass cultural work is carried on. The beach does not have the facilities. There is dirt all around. Trips and tours are extremely rare and, moreover, are uninteresting and monotonous. The impression is created that 'Yantarnyy Bereg' has no host."

"That's probably the group from Kaliningradskaya Oblast complaining," said the first of the tourists encountered at the base on learning of the purpose of my visit. "Just yesterday they complained to the management."

"We tried to pacify this group in every possible way and tried to convince them that their complaints were not entirely being made to the proper place," said Lt Col B. Novikov, chief of the Fleet tourism department, and N. Anokhin, chief of the tourist base, who came over and joined in the conversation. "That's more likely the people from Tula."

But it turned out that these were Muscovites and people from Khar'kov who were complaining.

Tourists come to "Yantarnyy Bereg" from various districts, from fleets and from different cities of the country. They come with a joyous expectation of an excellent rest, having heard about the charms of Baltic nature and the abundance of memorable places and sights. Nature here really is remarkable--you rest and gain in health and strength. But no, I did not see people at the tourist base who were satisfied with their leave, while I had occasion to hear many complaints.

For example, Maj N. Popyrin told me bitterly: "I have been at many Army and Navy bases, but I have not seen the likes of this. Tours are confused. There is a complete absence of information as to activities taking place. At times you can't find the instructors no matter what. You wait a long while for dinner in the dining hall." "For an entire week," adds Z. Ban'ko from Khabarovsk, "I haven't been able to find out where my group is or who is the instructor in it." Many other tourists also are unsuccessfully looking for their leader.

There has not been a medical worker at the tourist base for several months now. The food unit has been without sanitary control all this time, while in the best case indisposed tourists themselves choose pills at the medical station with the authorization of the tourist base chief. There is barely a glimmer of sports life at the base: there are no tourist competitions or games here, which long ago became traditional at the majority of Army and Navy tourist bases.

Mass cultural work also leaves much to be desired, to put it mildly. Many tourists complain of the poor quality with which movies are shown. I wanted to see this for myself, but did not succeed. Films were not shown at all on those days when I was at the base: the projectionist was gone. But should

the tourists' interests really suffer because of this? The base's managers were obligated to select a qualified replacement. But perhaps other mass cultural activities helped to some extent in solving the problem? No, the local "center of culture" has nothing to offer the tourists except for dances on tape or isolated lectures and discussions.

But previously the club worked much better. In particular, meetings with interesting people--war heroes and workers of the national economy, including from among those resting at the tourist base--were organized and enjoyed great popularity. Unfortunately, this was forgotten long ago, as were the once frequent sponsored concerts by artists of the Fleet drama theater and presentations by an agitation brigade of Baltic Fleet navymen.

Then just what is a tourist to do and where is he to direct the energy he has stored up? Of course, he can go to the beach, get a tan, swim, or limber up his muscles by rowing. But the beach is extremely run down and generates no desire in the vacationers to plunge into the cool waters of the Baltic. Of all the structures here there are only a pair of ramshackle shelters and two unpresentable dressing rooms with holes. With regard to launches and other water craft, they simply do not exist. There is not even a lifeguard's boat.

Is it really so difficult to bring order to this marvelous seashore, to outfit the beach, to make ten or twenty lounge chairs and a few shelters? Or stretch a tarpaulin against the sun? Tourists have asked about this and demanded it more than once over the last few years, but the tourist base managers still have not reacted in any way.

This situation did not take shape just suddenly today at the tourist base. Letters about shortcomings in the work of "Yantarnyy Bereg" came to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA earlier as well. The editors in turn made this known to responsible rear services officials and workers in the tourism department of the Baltic Fleet and received their assurances that all omissions would be eliminated. But these apparently were ordinary excuses. The operation of the facility still has not improved and justified complaints by tourists come to the editors as before. Heads of Fleet rear services and the political department headed by Capt 1st Rank V. Kabanov must finally direct their attention to their subordinate base, give it the necessary help and, where required, demand a strict accounting. "Yantarnyy Bereg" must give people health, good cheer and a good mood.

Realistic Evaluation of Training

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by Rear Adm G. Khvatov: "Industriousness and an Imaginative Approach: Exactingness Always and in Everything"]

[Text] The ship returned to base. At the critique the ship's commander reported the progress in preparation for and accomplishment of torpedo

firing. The opinion of some staff officers taking part in the critique leaned toward assessing the exercise with the highest mark.

But still the firing was given a mark of good. Yes, the crew operated very cohesively and the target had been destroyed. But it had not reached an outstanding result because the torpedoes were not fired from maximum range. That meant the ship's commander had been cautious and had slightly simplified accomplishment of the operational training mission. That meant success had been achieved without maximum use of the capabilities of the ordnance and equipment and without mobilizing all the specialists' energies and expertise.

Slightly simplified. Is it always possible to identify precisely where some commanders get the desire to "slightly simplify" or the consequences with which this desire is fraught in a combat situation?

Yes, each person probably has a clear understanding of the essence of the matter when we speak of the ultimate consequences of oversimplification in training. As a matter of fact, it is difficult to imagine a commander who would not recognize the fatal consequences of approximate or erroneous actions in battle. But sometimes it is not easy to understand the organizational and psychological sources of indulgences in training.

Each ship's commander of course understands full well that even in peacetime, training at sea must be arranged according to the laws of warfare and must include elements of tactical daring, command valor, risk and initiative. But some officers at times give in to the temptation to act according to stereotypes or even with elements of oversimplification because they count on receiving a high mark for exercise fulfillment, which means supplementary "points" in socialist competition.

But how about daring actions fraught with risk? Not everything here can be identical. It is well if a complicated and bold plan succeeds, but what if it doesn't? For example, if a chance error in a calculation or simply a minor detail which is impossible to foresee has let you down? Who, they say, would begin to think about your daring, original decision when mission accomplishment itself is threatened? That is how the insufficiently mature officer sometimes reasons. In short, the readiness to take a risk shows up in the sphere of tactics, but it primarily characterizes the moral and psychological maturity of the commander. And the degree of this maturity largely depends on the proper day-to-day assessment of the officer's actions and conduct.

Yes, we must actively help some commanders, especially young ones whose character has not been tempered, to overcome the temptations of oversimplification. The Navy needs not just competent commanders, but strong-willed people of principle who are capable of an exacting party and professional self-assessment. The high exactingness of senior chiefs, staffs, political organs and party organizations is called upon to be a reliable means of

combatting shortcomings in combat training which, unfortunately, still have not been eradicated everywhere. This meets the spirit of demands of the 25th CPSU Congress, which noted the need to assess objectively the results of work and to analyze the shortcomings thoroughly with an aim to eliminating them.

Ship's commander and party member Capt 3d Rank V. Kolesnikov is well-known in the Fleet. He is young, energetic and gifted. He has all the qualities. Commanders who are older even so sometimes envy his tactical discoveries. The officer acts with daring and calculation on ranges, in training rooms ashore and in practice battles at sea. He is an outstanding navigator, a skilled tactician and a thoughtful indoctrinator.

Capt 3d Rank Kolesnikov's exactingness toward himself and the crew has no exceptions of any sort. Let's say he is reporting his actions in a practice battle in a critique. After setting forth the progress in accomplishing the mission, the officer invariably indicates mistakes and unused capabilities. Of course, high marks are as dear to Capt 3d Rank Kolesnikov as they are to everyone. But the desire to train subordinates and learn military affairs himself in a real manner makes him uncompromising in his assessments and spurs him on to go farther and achieve more. And this desire naturally is passed on from the commander to the officers and all navymen. It is not by chance that the ship's crew builds up success in training and competition from one training period to another.

Of course, Kolesnikov has abundant capabilities and he purposefully develops the best aspects of his character. But I will not err if I say that a large part was played in his rapid and confident development by the moral example and active position of senior comrades--the experienced ships' commanders and staff officers. I will mention staff officers and party members Ye. Semenov and S. Korobenko in particular. Both of them work in close contact with ships' commanders and department heads. Neither one ever forgets that he is a staff representative and that exactingness must be inherent in his every step. The staff officers persistently see to it that every nautical mile of deployment is used effectively aboard all ships. They regularly hold demonstration practices and exercises and help commanders of subordinate subunits study equipment more thoroughly and master foremost training methodology.

Staff officer Capt 3d Rank Yu. Sakov is no less exacting at first glance. His inspections and visits aboard ships are awaited with a certain trepidation, but by and large, his exactingness lacks an essential element: the desire to take part without fail in eliminating the shortcomings revealed. If a staff worker adheres to this style of work, it can be an infectious example for ships' officers as well. As a result, it is easy to obtain a formalistic analogue of genuine exactingness permeated with concern for interests of the matter, and in the best instance not aggravate the shortcomings.

Establishment aboard ships of an atmosphere of exactingness depends on none to such an extent as it does on the staff, political organ and flag officer. Accomplishment of any mission, effectiveness of the deployment, and organization of training and indoctrination--everything is subjected to analysis and assessment here. And it is very important that the senior chief and staff officers strive to see ships' commanders in a real situation more often, i.e., at sea or in exercises where the fullest and most vivid opinion is formed as to a person's qualities. The criteria by which the flag officer is guided are invariably assimilated by the staff officers and have an active influence on the position and actions of ships' commanders. That is how a creative work style is established which is alien to subjectivism, which precludes self-complacency and which assumes high exactingness toward oneself and others.

But does the assessment approved by the senior chief always work to mobilize reserves or inspire ships' officers to further improve themselves?

Let's take a typical situation. A ship has returned from a long deployment. There were neither emergencies nor breakdowns at sea. Missions were accomplished confidently on the whole. Is this sufficient in order to give the crew's work the highest mark? In my opinion, not always. The staff is obligated to analyze the entire complex of elements which go to make up the work of the ship's commander and the entire crew at sea. What new things in tactics or in the employment of weapons were tried or created during the deployment? Was tactical maneuvering rational? Was equipment maintained and serviced competently and were power resources expended thriftily? How much did the real expertise of navymen develop, especially those of the ship's combat team? Were all norms of concealed actions observed in the exercise? In short, one has to examine a very broad range of issues thoroughly and fundamentally before the flag officer will approve a particular mark.

Offense is taken at times when a commander who has navigated safely on the whole does not receive the outstanding mark he expected. But this is observed in those cases where a critique of the deployment prepared by the staff is insufficiently precise or conclusive. The well-argued exactingness of the senior chief as a rule meets with the understanding and support of the ship's officers, who are concerned for the effectiveness and high quality of the operational training process.

The senior chief, staff and political department must constantly ponder how to improve the analysis of the progress and results of firings, other combat exercises, tactical exercises and socialist competition among ships.

In the unit where Officer Ye. Semenov serves interesting results came from use of a comparative methodology specially developed here for summarizing results of training and competition. In the assessment a ship is given added points, for example, for a successful and original solution to tactical and fire missions. A crew correspondingly loses "points" if stereotypes have

been allowed in tactics or if there were deviations from optimum operating modes of the equipment. First of all, this makes it possible to compare the achievements of competitors more accurately and instructively, and secondly, it increases trust in the objectivity of staff conclusions.

Following the example of this unit, the comparative methodology for summarizing results of training and competition is finding increasingly wide application in the Fleet. It is probably appropriate to caution against making it absolute. It is not possible to express all aspects of military labor in points. And so, using the "point" count as a means of supplementary information, we must above all see the people behind the figures and consider the features of their training and, finally, their psychology and the moral atmosphere in the collective. Otherwise the staff may find itself in the position of a person trying to solve a problem in higher mathematics by arithmetical means.

The need for an atmosphere of exactingness, nonself-complacency, and a striving for new and higher goals of combat expertise is dictated by our very times, by the growing scale and complexity of missions which are assigned to ships, and by the continuous increase in demands placed on the level of combat training and combat readiness of naval forces. The more exacting that commanders, party organizations, staff officers and political organs are, the more effectively these missions will begin to be accomplished.

6904

CSO: 1801

POST EXCHANGE FACILITIES IN THE TURKESTAN MILITARY DISTRICT DESCRIBED

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Jul 78 p 4

[Article by Col V. Dorokhov, Chief of the Trade Directorate, Red-Banner Turkestan Military District: "Mobile Post Exchanges Rush Into the Field"]

[Text] The tactical exercise came to an end. The motorized rifle regiment commander summarized performance and praised those who had performed excellently. These included Warrant Officer Shilin and his wife, Galina Viktorovna -- a mobile post exchange salesperson. The fact is that unfortunately military trade personnel do not frequently earn thanks under these circumstances, for it is no easy matter to provide military personnel good service in the field. It was necessary for Galina Viktorovna Shilina, for example, to prepare a special assortment of items, to go without sleep all night during the long march, and to choose a site to set up her snack bar with consideration of the tactical situation. It is particularly gratifying that this work style is becoming standard practice in a number of Voyentorgs in our district. Thus one of the important recommendations made at the Armed Forces Conference on Improving Conditions for Military Personnel -- to provide personal services for personnel wherever the men's military skills are being forged -- is being implemented.

A number of measures were taken in the district to ensure that the practices of the leading trade collectives are followed by all. The district military council held a conference of commanders, chiefs of political agencies, administrative and military trade personnel, which in particular helped strengthen our contacts with the men in the line units and coordination of trade schedules with combat training schedules. A review-competition for the best mobile PX was announced. Much was done to strengthen our cadres with officers discharged into the reserves. These individuals, who possess considerable service experience under the specific conditions of our district, bring many interesting innovations to military trade activities and enhance the prestige of our job.

I particularly want to note the importance of businesslike contacts between trade personnel, commanders and political agencies. It is precisely due to the absence of such contacts that in the recent past conditions for personnel in a certain remote garrison evoked criticism. But then the garrison commanding

officer, his deputy commander for political affairs and the Voyentorg chief, Maj A. Chekhovskiy, sat down together and determined the scope of activities and distributed responsibility for their execution. Now a consumer goods store, a vegetable market and an enlisted men's snack bar are in operation at the garrison. The once unattractive officer's mess has now become one of the finest in the district. Construction has been completed on a personal services combine and a bookstore.

But is it conceivable to organize sales booths on a military post without the direct participation of the commanding officer? And yet this form of service always meets the approval of enlisted personnel and noncommissioned officers. And of course it is a good thing that in the Voyentorgs directed by Maj A. Babik, Soviet Army civilian employee V. Muratov and others they have been able to reach agreement on all items with the corresponding commanders and set up booth operations. It is interesting to note that those same mobile PX salespeople took upon themselves the job of restocking the booths with goods. For them this is one more reserve potential for increasing sales volume and thus for meeting plan-specified targets. The profit generated by the post exchange trucks is steadily increasing year by year.

Comprehensively increasing trade servicing of military personnel wherever they serve -- in the field and on the post, we must also direct attention to such a specific problem as supplying remote garrisons with the necessary goods. Solving of this problem is seen in two areas. First of all, as I have already stated, by building all requisite trade-services facilities on remote posts. An indicative example of this approach is the country's southernmost garrison -- Kushka. At one time there was a prevalent view that this was the most undesirable location (due to lack of services), while today the attitude of military personnel toward Kushka has most definitely changed.

The garrison PX here is one of the best in the district. The "Arktika" officer's coffeehouse provides excellent recreation. Throughout the year vegetable store salesman Yakshimurat Pakhlyyev sells customers excellent potatoes and vegetables, apples and other fruits. Enlisted personnel flock to the new snack bar. The personal services combine offers the most diversified services. In this instance the term "remote garrison" has ceased to be a synonym for primitive living conditions, and trade personnel have made an appreciable contribution to this.

A second way to improve living conditions at remote garrisons is the establishment of regular mobile trade services. These same PX trucks, but on a large scale, constitute entire markets on wheels. We use the term Service Days for days when tailors and barbers, pattern makers and appliance repairmen visit a garrison together with goods and salespeople. This type of servicing in our district is presently going beyond the scope of individual experiments and in the near future will be able to take its rightful place in overall goods turnover. It is true that to achieve this it is necessary to bolster trade organizations with suitable vehicles and to overcome the disinclination on the part of some trade managers to burden themselves with additional chores.

We must also discuss the fact that some individuals lack a desire to work in the new manner in connection with the slow adoption of such a progressive form of vegetable and fruit sales as delivery to the store direct from the field and garden. And yet direct delivery of fruits and vegetables to the consumer guarantees high quality and saves the trade organization the need to spend money on storage and reloading. Unfortunately our efficiency innovators are not yet providing trade enterprises with small-scale mechanization. In view of the lack of an adequate supply of packaging and other equipment, this problem is particularly serious.

Carrying out the recommendations of the Armed Forces Conference on Improving Conditions for Military Personnel, the personnel of our trade-services enterprises are striving to supply military personnel with the needed goods and to create the most favorable conditions for their combat training and service.

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CSO: 1801

FIRING RANGE DEFICIENCIES IN ODESSA MILITARY DISTRICT CRITICIZED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jul 78 p 1

[Article by Col N. Petrov, Red-Banner Odessa Military District: "Unreplaced Losses"]

[Text] The men of the company under the command of Lt G. Tinikashvili arrived at the firing range in an elevated mood. On the preceding day the motorized riflemen had gone over theory and rules of gunnery, had drilled on the practice range and were anxious to produce excellent results. The first group was issued ammunition and took their places on the firing line. The company commander looked at his watch and noted with satisfaction that the firing exercise was beginning precisely on schedule. Ready to open fire, the enlisted men and noncommissioned officers waited nervously for the command. But they were forced to wait an hour and a half for it. At the last minute they learned that the target raising and displacement mechanisms were not operating. And the target hit feedback information system was not functioning.

The company commander was annoyed, the operators were upset, and the good mood dissipated in the motorized riflemen, who had been ready to go. Only Lt A. Pipikyan, who was in charge of the tactical-training field and firing range, remained unperturbed.

"The range equipment is complicated," the officer explained, "and the specialists are inexperienced. But we shall do our best to get things fixed as quickly as possible."

The company commander failed to share Lieutenant Pipikyan's optimism, and proved to be justified. The operators worked for more than an hour to find and correct the malfunction, but they were unable to accomplish anything.

During this time the motorized riflemen stood around idly at the firing line. The company commander did not organize a training activity with this group, since he was expecting the malfunction to be corrected at any moment, so that they could proceed with the firing. The remaining groups of riflemen, although busy, were not particularly enthusiastic. In short, a forced and totally unwarranted interruption had occurred in the precise rhythm of combat training.

Unfortunately the above-described time loss at this training center is not an isolated occurrence. Training activities are interrupted quite frequently here due to malfunctioning equipment. There are many problems, for example, on the tank moving target gunnery range under the direction of Capt V. Belyay. It is a rare occurrence at this training facility when all firing routes are operating, and tank crews sometimes stand around their ammunition-loaded combat vehicles for several hours waiting for a chance to fire.

These irreplaceable losses of training time are basically a result of poor preparation of training center specialists. Take operator Jr Sgt V. Dokusar', for example. He is very poorly prepared from a technical respect. He is not familiar with the equipment for which he is responsible. But is it possible to service and prepare complicated systems for operation if one is unfamiliar with their design and construction? We were witnesses to an incident where one of Warrant Officer I. Smelov's operators closed a switch and burned up nine expensive instruments, that is, put the firing range out of commission for an extended time.

The precise rhythm of combat training, its excellent quality and effectiveness, as well as efficient utilization of combat vehicles depend in large measure on training center personnel. And it is an intolerable situation when the combat training of several subunits suffers due to one poorly-trained specialist. Today our ranges are equipped with complex mechanisms, electronic devices and feedback information consoles. Thorough, diversified knowledge and skills are necessary in order to master this equipment. This means that qualified specialists capable of ensuring uninterrupted equipment operation day and night, in any and all weather, should be employed at a training center. There are such specialists at the training center. These include Warrant Officers V. Rakhitskiy, V. Yerokhin and others.

Sometimes, however, the selection of specialists for a training center is ignored. Even worse, some commanders deliberately keep in the subunit fine specialists with appropriate technical training and send poor-performance personnel to district training courses in response to orders. For example, at first Capt V. Belyay received operators who prior to military service had not had anything to do with mechanical equipment.

Preparation of specialists for training centers in the district is conducted at 3-month courses of instruction. At these courses of instruction the men are taught the fundamentals of repair and servicing of range equipment. These courses of instruction, however, cannot replace practical training in the unit. And yet sometimes there is no such training offered. In many instances persons servicing expensive equipment are left entirely on their own. Incidentally, there are no precisely elaborated performance standards for this category of specialist, and competition among these specialists is not always organized.

Summer training is in full swing. Securement of uninterrupted and precision operation of gunnery ranges, tank training areas, and firing ranges is particularly important at this time. This is an important area of the campaign to improve the quality and efficiency of combat training and to meet socialist pledges.

CHIEF OF SIGNAL TROOPS DISCUSSES IMPORTANCE OF FIELD TRAINING

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by Mar Sig Trps A. Belov, Chief of USSR Armed Forces Signal Troops; "Field Training of Signal Troops"]

[Text] The revolution in military affairs has led to a sharp increase in troop combat capabilities. There has been a substantial increase in the spatial scope, dynamic character and swiftness of combat operations, and there has been an increase in the scale of utilization of men and equipment. All this has unquestionably complicated the process of troop control and demanded the establishment of a new material foundation for troop control -- communications systems of various function. Constant preparedness and extensive capabilities of control and communications entities have become a most important factor determining the degree of combat efficiency of units and combined units.

The experience of the Great Patriotic War and peacetime field exercises attests to the fact that decreased stability of communications, and particularly loss of communications, lead to disruption of troop control and make it impossible swiftly to execute an exploitation phase even with a substantial superiority in men and equipment.

Thanks to tireless concern by the Communist Party and Soviet Government for strengthening the nation's defense capability, the USSR Armed Forces are equipped with everything they need. The signal troops are also supplied with first-class equipment. The adoption of qualitatively new communications gear -- radio relay, tropospheric -- has substantially increased communications reliability and has promoted improved efficiency of troop and fire control.

The communications systems of the various control echelons are complex technical systems which utilize, in addition to communications gear, computers and other complex devices developed on the foundation of the latest advances in electronics.

All this has sharply increased demands on special preparation and field training for signal troops. Today they need skills of comprehensive utilization

of the communications gear at their disposal, establishment and linking of various channels, the ability to determine quality of communications by means of instrument testing, and the ability rapidly to bring communications up to the required standards and quickly to find and correct malfunctions.

The main classroom, for signal troops, just as for the men of other arms -- is the field. Troop, staff and special tactical exercises as well as training drills for signal units and subunits constitute the foundation for improving the combat skill of signal personnel.

Signal troops train intensively in the summer training period. A high degree of skill in setting up communications centers and lines and in ensuring stable troop control under field conditions are displayed by the signal subunits under the command of officers A. Degtyarev, N. Gur'yev, N. Minakov, A. Belyayev and others. The experience of these military collectives convinces one that improvement in field proficiency and combat skill is a comprehensive, multifaceted task. Its high-quality accomplishment requires precise organization of the training process, highly-effective socialist competition, instillment of pride in one's military occupational specialty on the part of every signalmen, and skilled indoctrination of young personnel in the rich and glorious traditions of the signal troops.

In discussing improvement in signal personnel field training, I should like particularly to stress the importance of battle drill exercises. Unfortunately some signal subunit commanders at times slight these activities, considering them to be more appropriate for motorized riflemen and tankmen. This profoundly erroneous opinion is refuted by the practical experience of our leading units and subunits. In the signal personnel collective under the command of officer A. Degtyarev, for example, an important role is assigned to battle drill in the process of combat training. As a rule battle drills precede special tactical field exercises and pursue the goal of sequential forming of practical specialist skills and gradual transition from the simple to the complex. On the eve of a special tactical exercise dealing with deployment of individual elements of a communications center, usually the following tasks are worked on at a battle drill exercise, without actually bringing out the equipment: sequence of departure of vehicles from the parking area, selection of positions for deployment and placement of communications gear; sequence of tasks specified by the network schedule for deployment of communications center components; reports on status of communications; organization of security and defense.

Drilling of subunits in rapid deployment and proper operation of communications centers and links, prompt transmission of all types of information, as well as mastery of methods of protection against mass destruction weapons, security and defense of elements of a communications system are performed at special tactical exercises.

Combined conduct of such drills has taken firm hold in the training practices of many subunits. Alongside special-tactical training topics, at these drills

the men work on the principal areas of special, technical and combined-arms training. This promotes rapid development in the specialists of skills of ensuring stable communications and observance of safety measures during operation of communications under field conditions.

As experience shows, skillfully organized combined exercises make it possible to reduce the time required to break in young personnel and coordinate subunits. During the period of training it is advisable to hold three or four such exercises. Their subject matter and timetables are closely coordinated with the primary tasks aimed at maintaining a high level of combat readiness.

Headquarters staffs, as control and monitoring agencies, play an important role in improving the field proficiency of signal personnel and the quality of field drills. Indicative in this regard is the experience of the headquarters staff headed by officer B. Petrov. On the day before a recent trip into the field the staff officers, together with the subunit commanders, detailed the locations, sequence and time of the drills and specified the quantity and layout of equipment at the training stations. Special attention was focused on preparing the assistants of the exercise director, the simulation and monitoring groups, and to coordination of the training problems to be worked on as well as performance standards and matters of supply.

The staff officers worked persistently directly in the field to shorten the time required to deploy the communications system, for reliable system control, and strictly monitored coordinated actions between center and line subunits, and focused close attention on other important items. The drill proceeded in an organized and instructive manner.

Training of highly-skilled communications specialists who are capable under field conditions of performing not only their own duties but also the duties of other crew members demand the unrelenting attention of commanders of all echelons, party and Komsomol organizations. It is precisely interchangeability which makes it possible to accomplish combat missions when subunits are not at full strength. In this regard one might mention the advanced know-how amassed in the subunit under the commander of officer N. Ryabokon'. At the beginning of each training period the headquarters staff, with the active participation of political workers and the party organization, draws up schedules for training the young specialists, schedules which facilitate monitoring the training timetable and training quality; they elaborate methods recommendations on working on the most complex topics.

The proven method of separate training, whereby training classes for specialists are organized in a differentiated manner, depending on their level of training, individual features and terms of service should be adopted universally.

The quality of execution of training schedules, programs, and execution of pledges depends to a decisive degree on the level of professional training and methods skills of officers, warrant officers and noncommissioned officers,

as well as the state of unit and subunit facilities. One cannot accomplish the task of ensuring stability of communications by work-overloading individual specialists. And yet unfortunately such attempts still occur. For example, at an exercise in the Central Asian Military District, in a certain signal unit they attempted to secure communications channel reliability not with a high degree of field proficiency and special training of crews but by means of utilization of a small group of the most highly skilled specialists, "cruising" the communications lines and centers.

Further improvement in field proficiency of signal personnel should in our opinion be effected in several areas. First of all, improvement in the level of professional training and methods skills on the part of instructors. Much here is determined by regular holding of demonstration and instructor-methods classes with officers, warrant officers and noncommissioned officers, purposeful work by unit methods councils, and precise organization of independent study by command personnel. Practical combat training experience indicates that the effectiveness of this group of measures is ensured by direct participation by commanders, political workers, and engineer-technician personnel.

The adoption of new training methods is impossible without constant improvement of training facilities. The communications personnel of the Strategic Missile Forces and Navy are working particularly intensively in this area. These branches of the Armed Forces devote special attention to the development of training devices for the purpose of improving the training of specialists for working on the most complex and expensive communications equipment. The combined simulators which they develop enable both communications personnel and staff officers to improve skills. Also valuable is the experience of Ground Forces signal troops, where considerable work is being done on building communications practice facilities which enable one to work on training tasks under conditions maximally approaching combat.

The resolutions of the July CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the profound, interesting address by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at this plenum, as well as the resolutions of the Ninth Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet evoked great patriotic enthusiasm and a new influx of productive energy in military communications personnel as well as all other Soviet Armed Forces personnel.

Commanders, political workers, staffs, party and Komsomol organizations of signal units and subunits are striving more fully to utilize this enthusiasm for mobilizing personnel further to increase combat readiness, for complete and high-quality accomplishment of the tasks assigned the troops by the USSR Minister of Defense, as well as socialist pledges.

It is our duty, on the basis of increasing demandingness in evaluating what has been achieved, to reach new highs in combat readiness, to advance further and achieve more.

TANK COMPANY COMBAT TRAINING EXAMINED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by Capt A. Yakubovskiy: "New Horizons"]

[Text] That day they were firing on the range. One run, a second, and a third.... The results were excellent. The mood of the tank crewmen immediately improved. From the tower they heard the voice of platoon leader Lt A. Krasnov: "Good boys! Holes in all targets!"

Hearing this, company commander Sr Lt Yu. Novikov frowned, displeased. It is true that there were many holes in the targets. But was that the main thing? He was always against assessing firing results solely on the basis of number of targets destroyed. This is a one-sided approach! Could one be pleased with the received marks of 5 if the tactical pattern of crew actions looked unoriginal and there was no apparent endeavor by the tank crews toward innovative interpretation of the assigned mission?

Before the critique, Senior Lieutenant Novikov asked: "Did you notice your mistakes?"

The tankmen silently exchanged glances. In their doubting looks he could read: what are you talking about, mistakes? Everybody performed the exercise! Nobody went beyond the time allocated for the firing exercise, and all targets were hit.

This is true, but Novikov noted from the command and observation tower that prior to firing the swiftly advancing tanks would brake sharply, as if encountering an obstacle. Slowing down, the drivers would offer the gunners the most favorable conditions for firing and would help them hit the target on the first round. But is such assistance a good thing when it is to the detriment of swiftness of the attack?

"In the attack everything is determined by decisiveness, accurate fire and maneuver, while slowing speed down always transforms a tank into a convenient target for the enemy," summarized Senior Lieutenant Novikov.

He stated that the company had no need of marks of 5 obtained under eased conditions, for the capabilities of improving combat skill are far from exhausted.

Novikov once again became convinced of this at the firing exercise. He timed the actions of the company's best driver, Sgt V. Politykin. In slowing down, he lost about 10 seconds. This meant that the other drivers were losing even more time, endeavoring to provide advantageous conditions for accurate fire....

That evening, when the company's officers gathered to summarize the day's results and to discuss tasks for the following day, the conversation turned to that day's firing exercise. Lt N. Korshak, the party organization secretary, and Lt V. Kravtsev had good suggestions on ways to increase the effectiveness and quality of training drills. Novikov listened with interest to their sensible ideas and thought: "New performance goals have been stated. Now it will be easier to get the men to storm new heights, from which new horizons will open up."

Two weeks later was a test exercise. Once again the tank moving target gunnery range. Once again the field, pockmarked by shells and totally covered by tank track marks. Behind, to the left and right on the horizon was forest. Soon the targets would appear up ahead.

The tanks lurched forward and swayed down the uneven range road. Tank guns boomed, accompanied by the chatter of machineguns. This was followed by a brief critique.

"You moved faster," Novikov emphasized. "But you could move even faster, gaining an additional several seconds."

Another run, followed by still another.... The results were gratifying. Thus the preceding practice drills had not been in vain. The platoon under the command of Lt N. Korshak received an excellent mark for its target accuracy. The other two platoons barely missed receiving a mark of five. The time allocated for accomplishing the mission was reduced. The crews received the requisite moral-psychological work load.

Since then it has become a rule in the company that every day of combat training a step forward should be taken, and that each day should be remembered by the tank crewmen because of something new and different from the preceding day. They lived according to the principle: definitely move further and achieve more. This produced good results.

He will long remember this attack. Things began with the company assigned to the reserve. Thus they had to wait. They had to wait until the forward subunits penetrated the "aggressor" defense and created conditions for exploitation. All that time, while combat was in progress somewhere up forward, Novikov, looking at the map, was mentally going through variants of the forthcoming actions. He was increasingly inclined to the conclusion that

most probably the company would be compelled to deploy in a small area the eastern part of which was occupied by a swamp. The slightest miscalculation -- and the right-flank platoon could get into the swamp. This would lead to consequences about which he did not even want to think.

Finally came the command to engage. The tank crews required a minimum time to negotiate the roadless forest. The company reached the designated point at a moment when the "aggressor" was attempting to seize the initiative.

The company's swift appearance and the resolute actions of the tank crews frustrated the plans of the opposing side. Awarding the company a pennant for excellent performance at the exercise, the regimental commander stated: "Fine work! You convincingly demonstrated the importance of swift and skillful maneuver combined with accurate fire."

Sr Lt Yu. Novikov was pleased. His long-time wish had come true: to show his men in such an acute and dynamic situation the force of a tank attack in which all equipment capabilities are utilized fully. How long ago had it been that he himself became acquainted with it in school? After receiving his officer's commission, he commanded a platoon for three years. He then took over a company and was now in his second year as company commander. Could he forget his first steps, his development which was still continuing?

It happened that in the fall two new platoon leaders reported to the company at the same time.

"Novikov is really strong," his fellow officers joked. "He got all the new men and left nothing for the others."

"Just wait, you won't be saying that when we take all the challenge pennants in the regiment," Yuriy responded to his comrades in like vein, introducing lieutenants Kravtsev and Krasnov.

He took as confidence the fact that they had sent service school graduates precisely to his company. Since such a decision was made, it meant his superiors had confidence that he, Senior Lieutenant Novikov, would help the newcomers display commander qualities faster.

He liked the lieutenants. Visiting their training classes, Novikov was satisfied on the whole, although the young platoon leaders did make mistakes. Lt V. Kravtsev, for example, made a typical methods miscalculation: he failed to consider the fact that many tank crewmen already possessed a fair amount of experience. They listened with bored looks on their faces while the officer read to them right out of the manual during study of gunnery procedures.

During a break in the class the company commander asked the lieutenant: "Can you explain why there is no activeness in the class?"

"The topic is such that you can't really do much."

"Of course a manual is not a novel, but there is plenty of room for commander thought and innovativeness."

Senior Lieutenant Novikov advised him to conduct his class differently, to stress competitiveness, to study the same rules and procedures while solving fire problems. Have the men compete to see who would solve the problem best and fastest.

After the break the class totally changed countenance. Listening to the tank crewmen solving fire problems and suggesting nonstandard action variants, the company commander realized that his presence here was no longer mandatory and that he could now see how things were going with Lieutenant Krasnov....

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CSO: 1801

BETTER DISCIPLINARY TRAINING IN OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOLS NEEDED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jul 78 p 1

[Editorial: "The Service School -- a Model of Procedure Laid Down by Regulations"]

[Text] Every year a new contingent of service school graduates reports for duty in military units and on naval ships. These young lieutenants possess a high degree of ideological conditioning, profound and diversified political, military and specialized knowledge, and solid practical skills. In addition, these graduates bring from the military educational institution the ability vigorously and purposefully to campaign for further strengthening of military discipline and strict observance of procedure laid down by regulations in the subunits and crews under their command.

This attests to the fact that the cadet years of these young officers were spent in an atmosphere of high and unswerving demandingness, precise organization of training and service, and daily observance of all the provisions of general military regulations. Such an atmosphere is typical of the majority of military educational institutions, including the Kiev Higher Combined-Arms Command School imeni M. V. Frunze, the Sevastopol' Higher Naval Engineering School, and others.

However, not all service schools have yet become a model of procedure laid down by regulations, a standard against which future officers will be able to compare their every step during service in line units. Some military educational institutions have not yet fully eliminated instances of violation of daily routine, unwarranted shifting of classes, and a lip-service attitude toward morning inspection, evening muster, and inspection parades, which have the task of teaching and indoctrinating the cadets. Such deficiencies were noted, for example, at the Voroshilovgrad Higher Military Aviation Navigator School imeni Proletariat of the Donbass, and at the Yaroslavl' Higher Military Finance School imeni Army Gen A. V. Khrulev.

Further strengthening of military discipline and order in service schools as well as organization of training, service and off-duty activities of cadets in strict conformity with the demands of general military regulations is a task of prime importance. Successful accomplishment of this task, as is

indicated by the experience of leading military educational institutions, is secured by comprehensive utilization of all forms of ideological-political, military and moral indoctrination of future officers and the joint efforts of commanders, political workers, instructors, party and Komsomol organizations.

One of the main areas in the campaign for exemplary order at service schools is a high level of day-by-day demandingness on cadets by commanders, political workers, and instructors. It should be manifested from the first to the last days of training. Only such continuous and purposeful influence on the future officers will promote instillment of a sense of duty, personal discipline, efficiency, and an inner need to act strictly according to regulations in all things pertaining to service.

Displaying a high degree of demandingness toward the cadets, commanders, political workers, instructors, and specialists of the departments, services and divisions of service schools are obliged to display a personal example of punctual observance of all provisions of general military regulations.

A flawless appearance, inner composure, military smartness, irreproachable self-mastery and tact, as well as skilled utilization of the authorities granted by regulations should constantly serve as a model for future officers.

Serious attention in this respect should be focused on the training process support subunits. They, just as cadet companies and batteries, should be for the cadets a model of order and organization. Unfortunately the command, political sections and party organizations of some military educational institutions ignore these subunits. As a result, in the conduct of practical training classes cadets sometimes find themselves in an environment of poor demandingness and encounter irresponsibility on the part of certain officials, which can create the wrong idea about service in line units.

Considerable responsibility in connection with this lies on the shoulders of personnel agencies. In selecting officers for vacant positions of cadet subunit commander and political worker, instructor, specialists of departments and training process support subunits, one should very carefully evaluate the political and professional qualities of the candidates, the level of their military and specialized training, their personal discipline, and their ability on the basis of present-day demands to teach and indoctrinate personnel and to be an example for their subordinates.

An important role is played by study of general military regulations in strengthening organization and order in service schools and in consistent forming of commander qualities in cadets. Classes dealing with this subject should be assigned to the most experienced educators and commanders, held at specially equipped training stations and areas, with extensive employment of technical teaching and monitoring devices.

Garrison and guard duty as well as daily duty details constitute an excellent school for future officers. Performing the duties of NCO marching reliefs,

guards, duty officers and orderlies for the subunits and motor pool, cadets acquire needed skills and learn independently to make decisions aimed at strengthening organization and order and confidently to implement the demands of general military regulations. In order to ensure high effectiveness of this work it is necessary skillfully to combine thorough monitoring of the actions of future officers with maximum trust in them.

In the interests of further strengthening organization and order at service schools, the life-giving force of socialist competition should be utilized in full measure. Individual cadet pledges, alongside increased academic success, should also reflect such items as the endeavor to perform exemplary service on guard duty and detail for regimental duties, to achieve a military bearing, and to observe ethical standards of conduct. These indices must be taken into account in totaling up results and in determining winners.

Political agencies, party and Komsomol organizations are called upon to do a great deal to strengthen procedure laid down by regulations at service schools. It is their duty to utilize all forms of party-political work to instill in future officers a conscientious attitude toward military discipline and vigorously to disseminate advanced know-how.

An important task facing service schools is that of arming graduates with knowledge and practical skills required for skilled training and indoctrination of personnel, further strengthening of military discipline, and maintaining strict procedure laid down by regulations in the subunits. By successfully accomplishing this task and constituting a model of order and organization, they will be making a worthy contribution toward the cause of training cadres for the USSR Armed Forces.

3024

CSO: 1801

TRAINING IN OUTSTANDING MISSILE UNIT NOTED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jul 78 p 1

[Article by Maj V. Zhukov: "On Advanced Know-How"]

[Text] A demonstration drill on combat employment of a missile system was being conducted, using one of the battalions. The crew was repulsing a massive "aggressor" air attack under conditions of intensive jamming. There were target tactical maneuvers and unexpected scenario changes, with specialists "going out of action" and being replaced. The pace of the drill, however, was always maintained. The missile crewmen skillfully accomplished the assigned mission. Representatives of neighboring subunits of the unit -- strict judges, impartial and principled to the highest degree, who were visiting the battalion to study experience and know-how, gave them the highest mark.

Then guests and hosts exchanged views on training specialists in abridged training periods and on how to create at training drills an instructive environment approximating the conditions of modern combat. They listened with interest to what missile battery commander Capt A. Sukhikh had to say about getting the crews to operate smoothly. This method is based on a timetable for conducting special training drills and tactical exercises, drawn up by unit headquarters.

We must state that the proficiency of launcher crews in the unit increased appreciably during the first weeks of the summer training period. For example, the crews under the command of Sr Sgt V. Bozhidayev, N. Sidorov and N. Shil'kov are surpassing by 20% the launcher loading performance standards. The other launcher crews are not far behind them. This success had been achieved due to the fact that the experience and know-how of the leaders is constantly studied and flexibly adopted not only in the subunit but also at the unit level. This is promoted in large measure by monthly get-togethers of subunit and crew commanders, party and Komsomol activists, held in the battalion which has become the socialist competition winner.

Visiting the leaders and seeing new innovations in personnel training and organization of practice drills, each commander naturally endeavors to employ

these new things in his own work. And in this regard one can scarcely exaggerate the importance of professional get-togethers between officers, noncommissioned officers and leading specialists from different subunits, as well as competitions among the best crews at the unit level. The experience and know-how of the leaders brings significant benefit only when it becomes accessible to all, when it enables the rest to select the most expedient paths in professional growth and provides warning against mistakes.

I have a reason for focusing attention on this. Up until recently we would encounter the following: a crew would reach a certain level and could not advance further a single step. It seemed that capabilities were exhausted and reserves used up. And yet in the neighboring subunit an identical crew has long since achieved an even higher performance level and is confidently advancing further. Why was it able to do this? Not everybody knew the answer. Now such a thing is out of the question. The adoption of advanced know-how has been placed on a businesslike basis in our unit.

In the battalion under the command of Lt Col A. Rabchonek many crews showed excellent performance, but they did not perform their best at practice sessions and tactical drills. Once again the experience of the leaders helped get to the heart of this seeming paradox. It was learned that in this battalion practice drills to achieve smoothness were conducted without considering the interrelationship between specialists, and their comprehensive training was conducted in an ill-conceived manner. What was the result of this? There would occur a lack of coordination in actions and disruption in the work rhythm and dynamics of combat. It also would frequently happen that the radar operators would be tracking a target, and yet not all launchers would be loaded. An acute time shortage was created, and the launcher control officer would be forced to employ one and the same crews for repeat firings -- the best crews. The work load on them increased, and it would happen that they would drop off the pace and make mistakes.

Study of the experience and know-how in organizing combined training drills in the excellent battalion under the command of Lt Col V. Galatenko and its practical adoption made it possible rapidly to eliminate these errors.

The search for reserve potential, unutilized capabilities, and adoption in practical training of all new and advanced ideas are very important items for the entire personnel of our division -- initiator of competition in the National Air Defense Forces. The position and responsibility of those at the forefront obliges them to accomplish a great deal.

The unit commander and his deputies have special folders in which progress in meeting pledges is depicted. Such a record gives a graphic picture and shows how important is the contribution of each individual to the common cause, and thus enables the commander, political section, and headquarters staff efficiently and flexibly to influence the course of competition and promptly to concentrate efforts in the main areas. In addition, it offers the opportunity to work with lagging performers in a more businesslike manner.

At one time, for example, professional growth was proceeding very slowly for Sr Lt V. Nikitenkov's men. This became known in the unit. Staff officers studied the state of affairs in the subunit and assisted the commander in correcting deficiencies.

Increasing success in combat and political training and effectiveness of competition are inseparably linked with increasing the methods skills of officers, warrant officers, and noncommissioned officers. It has been noted that there are no indifferent individuals at instructive and interesting classes filled with new items. And where there is interest and activity, the flame of competition burns brighter, minds work harder, and there is greater return.

Prime attention is devoted in the regiment to problems of methodology. A certain procedure has been adopted: no leader is authorized to hold a class or training drill without a prior-approved plan and synopsis and without thorough testing of his knowledge and analysis of the methods devices to be employed. In the battalions we regularly hold classes of the open-lesson type, attended by crew, platoon and battery commanders. They end with a thorough analysis of the leader's methods procedures.

Regimental headquarters frequently organizes methods classes on the most complex topics for young officers. They are conducted by the unit commander or his deputy.

Today, when all missile crew efforts are directed toward high-quality performance of combat training targets and socialist pledges, each and every bit of experience and know-how acquires particular value and makes it possible to move faster and more surely toward the designated training and competition goals.

3024

CSO: 1801

EFFECTS OF MATERIEL MAINTENANCE ON COMBAT TRAINING DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by Gds Engr-Lt Col N. Tkachenko: "On What Success Depends"]

[Text] I should like to share with the readers of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA my thoughts on a certain important question.

At service conferences, party and Komsomol meetings we speak a good deal, and rightly so, about the necessity of increasing the efficiency and quality of the training process, and we call upon personnel to make every effort to meet socialist pledges. This is a very important and necessary thing. Unfortunately, however, these appeals, fine wishes and sensible decisions are not always reinforced by organizational work.

Recently the following incident occurred. The subunit under the command of officer V. Agafonov was taking part in a tactical exercise. Combat had barely begun when two special vehicles broke down. It was necessary to correct the problems while the exercise was in progress. What was the reason for this? Could it have been indifference on the part of officer Agafonov and his men? No. I know him to be a vigorous, persistent commander who knows how to organize work intelligently and to inspire his men. The men worked hard on this occasion as well.

It would seem that much had been specified and accomplished in the subunit: personnel were briefed on the forthcoming exercise missions, and the men adopted tough socialist pledges and worked out the sequence of actions. But among all the large and small matters, officer Agafonov and his men forgot about checking a number of mechanisms on the special vehicles. And as it turns out, they needed servicing and minor adjustments.

Thus the reason for the breakdown is clear. But what are the consequences? The subunit received a lower mark, and some of the men failed to meet the socialist pledges they had adopted for the exercise.

The subunit under the command of Gds Capt S. Terent'yev approached the critical examination in a different manner. A special place among the

many measures which preceded the exercise was occupied by thorough checking and readying of equipment. And the equipment did not let them down.

The unit's staff officers saw the enthusiasm and zeal with which the men of this subunit worked at the exercise. The situations were constantly changing, and on numerous occasions the situation became extremely complex, but it seemed that the difficulties only further encouraged the specialists and brought on a new influx of energy and inspiration. And this inspiration derived from a thorough understanding of their role at the exercise and firm faith in the capabilities of the combat equipment, which they had so carefully and affectionately readied for combat.

What conclusion can be drawn from these examples? Only one -- how important it is for all of us commanders, staff officers and service chiefs to ensure thorough preparation of training facilities and combat equipment for classes, drills and exercises.

Combat equipment which is to participate in difficult marches and other movements requires particular attention, for the probability of this equipment breaking down is naturally greater. Special vehicles should be prepared most thoroughly for training sessions and drills.

Armament service personnel and the officers of the subunits in our unit do much to maintain the equipment in good working condition and in a constant state of readiness for combat employment. They teach the men advanced equipment servicing and adjustment techniques and regularly inspect special vehicles and other equipment with the assistance of shop specialists. In totaling up competition results they take into consideration the attitude of the men toward the equipment assigned to them and their ability to perform technical inspections and adjustment procedures.

The experience of the best subunits in the unit demonstrates that only with precise organization of the training process and uninterrupted operation of the training facilities and combat equipment employed in training activities can one ensure successful accomplishment of training schedules and programs as well as meeting socialist pledges in competition. We should more vigorously effect practical adoption of this experience. This determines to a substantial degree our overall success. We drew such a conclusion from lessons learned at a recent exercise.

3024
CSO: 1801

NEED FOR EFFECTIVE PLANNING OF SUPPORT SERVICES EXAMINED

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by Col P. Veshchikov: "But What According to Plan?"]

[Text] Work was in progress in the unit on reequipping the gunnery training area. Things were not going well. Various factors were slowing the job down, but the main factor was a lack of needed cable. And all they needed was 220 meters of it! Maj V. Pechenkov was designated to be responsible for obtaining the cable. Two trucks were put at his disposal, and... there began one of those supply delivery measures which would make good material for sketch writers.

Let us not recall, however, the amusing situations encountered by the "expeditors" and "acquisition specialists," but let us ask: why did it become necessary to "acquire" cable? Or are the necessary supplies lacking at our supply depots? No, of course supplies are available. There is cable available, but the decision to lay it in the gunnery training area was an impromptu one, totally apart from the housekeeping activities plan elaborated in the unit. And if such operations are not provided for in the plan, there is no financing available, and supply will involve considerable difficulties.

I remember an incident at a garrison in the Red-Banner Turkestan Military District, where there was a difference of opinion in determining priority jobs in preparing an itemized list of capital construction projects. At that time the question was raised: "What appears in the long-range plan?" The answer was a garrison bath and laundry combine. Construction plans were already prepared, and the requisite funds were available. The comrades, including Lt Col I. Karal'kin, submitted to the plan, and soon the combine was erected.

There is one interesting detail. For several years there has been in effect at the garrison a plan calling for centralized hauling of bread, meat, and fish. This makes it possible to reduce vehicle mileage 2.3-fold, to increase the truck load utilization factor fourfold, and makes it possible to reduce fivefold the number of trucks assigned for hauling these items.

We know that the military housekeeping activities of units and combined units are a part of our socialist economy, and they naturally manifest certain

economic laws, and the principles of socialist planning should also be implemented in these activities. This was discussed in detail at the Armed Forces Conference on Improving Living Conditions of Military Personnel. It was also noted that unsatisfactory planning of rear services support has a negative effect on the combat readiness of units and leads to undesirable phenomena such as the cable episode we mentioned at the beginning of this article.

How is it possible to ensure that our plans are elaborated not by guesswork and are realistic? Of course it is necessary more deeply to study concrete matters and practical work experience. In our opinion it is no less important persistently to arm officials with knowledge and principles of planning economic activities.

As we know, the principal planning document for military housekeeping activities is the annual economic plan, with corresponding substantiations and calculations. Here is how they proceed in drafting annual plans in the unit where Lt Col V. Karamnov serves as deputy commander for rear services.

This officer believes that correctly elaborated plans should specify everything, calculate everything, coordinate everything, and invest all considerations in a number of concrete decisions and practical measures. Planning of economic activities here is done in close coordination with financial plans, as well as taking into account allocated funds, limits and actual materiel and money requirements.

For example, in preparing a calculation of fuel requirements for combat training and housekeeping activities, Capt L. Panasin takes into account all factors affecting fuel consumption and does not order fuel in proportion to equipment on hand, as frequently is the case in other units. In such an instance a given commander, restricted by the corresponding limits in consumption of these materials, is involuntarily forced to seek an optimal solution.

At the officers conference I attended, questions of economic activities were subjected to thorough analysis. In particular, at the suggestion of Maj V. Filonenko it was decided to utilize water from the boiler room for washing vehicles, and the washing station would be reequipped figuring that up to 80% of the water would be repeat-use. This will provide savings of thousands of cubic meters of water, which under the concrete conditions of the unit's location is extremely essential. At the suggestion of Capt V. Khaliulin upward adjustments were introduced into the plans, increasing the kitchen vegetable garden area by adding a plot of ground which previously had not been utilized. On this plot they will grow feed for kitchen livestock.

Modification of plans taking critical comments and suggestions into account produces positive effects. Such plans, as is demanded by guideline documents, reflect all aspects of a unit's economic activities pertaining to support of combat and political training, material, services and cultural needs of

personnel, as well as other measures connected with labor expenditures, expenditure of supplies and money, and utilization of transport.

It is very important to communicate ratified plans to executing personnel in a timely manner as well as continuously to monitor their execution and to adjust them in a prompt manner.

Planning is an innovative, collective and very responsible kind of work. Not only commanders and service chiefs but also political agencies and the entire economic and housekeeping edifice of military units should participate in planning. Such thoughtful work is a guarantee of success in military housekeeping activities.

3024

CSO: 1801

COMMAND TRAINING FOR YOUNG OFFICERS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by Lt Gen K. Vorob'yev: "Confidence and Exactingness"]

[Text] An officer's youth is a time of searching, daring and discovery. And this is also the time of shaping a personality. A period when each person can and should place the highest demands on himself, devote all his forces to the cause he is to serve, and do a maximum of what he is capable.

The development of lieutenants occurs more rapidly the more concrete and thoughtful the leadership over them, the more boldly the commanders and superiors give them independence and provide an opportunity to test their forces and test themselves in a difficult undertaking.

Two years ago Lt S. Druzhinin arrived in a unit. He was to head a subunit which had not shown high results. Officer K. Popenko from the very outset let the lieutenant understand that he trusted him. But he also was strict with him and made no concessions for youth or lack of experience. And such an approach was precisely necessary in the given instance.

In feeling the confidence of the commander, Lt Druzhinin set to work earnestly and wholeheartedly. When necessary he did not fear to show initiative and defend his viewpoint. Once in an argument with a well known member of the procedural council, valuable additions were born for the existing procedure for training specialists. Druzhinin also introduced much that was new into the organization of the training process and the socialist competition.

By the end of the training year, just 5 months after Lt Druzhinin had taken over the subunit, it became excellent. And it is difficult to say who was more responsible for this, Druzhinin himself or his commander, the communist officer Popenko. Although at first glance it might seem that Popenko did not devote so much attention to his subordinates. In actuality, he was not in the subunit from reveille to taps, he did not bother the lieutenant and did not take over for him in work, as is still done by certain inexperienced indoctrinators.

An individual approach is called individual because it considers the character traits of a person and the features inherent precisely to him. And this was the starting point for officer Popenko in indoctrinational work with the lieutenant. Both when things were going well for Druzhinin and when he encountered difficulties and made mistakes. Of course mistakes are inevitable. Popenko always analyzed the mistakes made by his subordinate calmly, he did not force readymade decisions on him, but merely suggested and aimed him in the right direction.

Recently Druzhinin was promoted and given the next military rank. And officer Popenko was also promoted to a superior position in another unit. But Druzhinin will always remember his commander and the situation of great exactingness, confidence and benevolent attention in which he served his lieutenant's days and his period of maturation.

In talks with young officers frequently it is clear that for some of them service is difficult and the process of development is extended. Attend an exercise, listen to such a lieutenant and you will feel that he as yet lacks experience. It is as if he does everything correctly, but somewhat timidly and unsuredly literally as if he were constantly waiting for someone to stop him. And where is that creative ardor and involvement which is inherent to youth? There is none of it. Merely questioning glances toward the commander wondering how I am giving the material. And involuntarily the notion arises that this is caused by a lack of confidence in their forces.

"But where is it to come from, this confidence," admitted one young officer once, "if during those 4 months that I commanded the subunit, I received four reprimands. There was a reprimand a month. And now a month is ending, the commander is giving the results, he will see that we again are in last place, and again you can expect a reprimand."

And everything turned out exactly thus. Four months and four reprimands. And what was the reason for this--the negligence of the young officer, the lax attitude toward his service duties or insufficient experience?

The lieutenant had served in the unit for less than a year. Initially he had not subordinates and everything went well. But then he took over as a subunit commander, and the complications started. In a short period of time there were two instances of infractions of military discipline. The lieutenant saw one of the reasons in the fact that as yet the authority of the sergeants was low as was their activity in work. How to see to it that the sergeants became reliable assistants of the subunit commander? He was just beginning to seek an approach to this problem, and then one beginning specialist made a mistake in servicing the equipment.

The senior chief, officer V. Shustov, summoned the young commander to himself and began to read him out:

"Explain to me what the problem is? What is preventing you from working? Don't you feel well or are family problems bothering you? Ah, you don't have a family! Well, all the more reason for you to work as you should. I am reprimanding you for not promptly reporting the violation to me. Remember this will be the case in the future. I see no other ways to influence you."

Soon the lieutenant was convinced that his superior was not merely wasting his breath. The reprimands, as they say, came in turn. As for other methods for influencing the young officer, officer Shustov did not seek them.

The question arises of what about the unit commander, the political workers or the party organization? They should have seen the serious mistakes which Shustov was making in his indoctrinational work with the young officers, and correct him.

The report of communist Shustov was heard at a session of the party bureau. But there was no true party, fundamental discussion. Thus they rebuked him for failings, oversights and that was it. Only the interference of the senior chief helped eliminate the shortcomings and aided officer Shustov in changing the style of his work.

Young officers remember and are grateful to those commanders who know well the needs and requests of their subordinates, who indoctrinate them considerably, who provide them with concrete help, who promptly spot both shortcomings and successes, and encourage them for showing initiative. And then military service begins to show itself a bit to the young officers not only in its strictness but also in its warmth, sincerity and military comradeship.

The communist officer V. Bakulin has received many letters from officers who have been trained under him. They have already advanced beyond lieutenant grade, but they still have a need to seek advice from their former commander, and to share with him their joys, problems and new ideas.

Of course, Bakulin has no special "secrets" in indoctrinating the young officers. He does what each commander or chief should do. But we must add without fail that he does this with heart and with true concern for the growth of a person. This is his entire "secret."

The young officers need support from senior comrades and a considerate and responsive attitude toward themselves. But this does not mean that any hothouse conditions should be created for them. There was the following instance. A company commander, in endeavoring to ease the process of the shaping up of a young officer, shifted a "difficult" soldier from his platoon to another where a more experienced commander was.

Bakulin learned of this and ordered the soldier to be returned to the collective where he had served previously. And he demanded that the company commander not make things easy for the lieutenant but rather actually help

him acquire experience in indoctrinational work with the men. A good deal of time passed before the soldier got rid of his shortcomings and became outstanding. But how the lieutenant was pleased by this! He now had confidence in himself as an indoctrinator.

A good knowledge of people helps in correctly solving the questions of the service of the young officers, of creating a viable reserve of candidates for promotion to the basic command and command-staff positions, and combining experienced commanders with the youth who have proven themselves in practical work. Due to such an organizing of things, the recent graduates of military schools officers A. Nedelin, S. Galiguzov and many others in a short period of time mastered their new duties and confidently command subunits.

But as yet work with young officers has not been organized in this manner everywhere. At times the commander appears in a subunit along with the lieutenant, he introduces him to the men, and then rarely meets with him, and does not truly know what difficulties he is encountering.

Less than a year ago, Lt V. Sukhanov began serving in a unit. His first acquaintance with his subordinates was in the training classroom. Officer P. Timchenko introduced the new commander to the men, and then asked WO [praporshchik] I. Yermol'chik, the leader of the exercise, why the trainer wasn't being used. It turned out that the trainer had broken down, and he, WO Yermol'chik, could not understand what the matter was.

"Are you acquainted with this system?" asked Timchenko of the lieutenant and having received an affirmative answer proposed: "Let us take a look together."

A break was announced but no one left the classroom. The men watched with curiosity what the new commander was doing. How would he perform? Sukhanov for a certain time studied the circuitry, and then he connected an oscillograph to the system and began to check out the parameters.

The master of military skills officer Timchenko merely glanced at the oscillogram and immediately realized that the lieutenant was looking for the malfunction where it could not be. He went up to the next bay, he withdrew a unit and without attracting attention to himself, changed a tube. When Sukhanov completed the test and again tried to turn on the trainer, it suddenly "came alive."

WO Yermol'chik expressed probably the general opinion: "Fine work!"

Timchenko had good intentions at heart. He wanted the new subunit commander to immediately gain authority as an able specialist. But did he act correctly? Is it not possible that such interference by an experienced officer could lead to a situation where the lieutenant would lose confidence in his own forces?

To Timchenko's honor, he quickly realized where his pedagogical error had been.

At times as an argument against promoting an officer to a superior position one hears references to his youth or to the fact that his military rank is lower than the officers who are to become his subordinates. This is a one-sided approach to the question. The results of an officer's labor should be the main criterion for evaluating him as a leader. Precisely successes in raising the combat readiness of a subunit most fully show the maturity of a commander and the possibility of his further advancement in service.

The guarantee for new successes in strengthening the combat readiness of the units and subunits and in increasing organization and order lie in the daily concern for the development and growth of the young officers.

10272

CSO: 1801

NEW TRAINING PROCEDURES FOR RADAR TROOPS EXAMINED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jul 78 p 1

[Article by Col (Res) A. Kantor: "On the Basis of a New Method"]

[Text] The radar subunit under the command of officer N. Zinov'yev for several years running has won first place in the socialist competition and is the best in the unit. Such stable success has been largely aided by the skillful and creative organization of the training process. Here they have introduced into practice a new training method based upon the theory of the step-by-step shaping of mental actions and concepts. This makes it possible to reduce the duration and improve the quality of instruction.

The air situation unexpectedly grew complex. Just a moment ago the plotting boards of the command point were totally clear, and now they were sprinkled with target lines and columns of figures. The specialists were working confidently and knowledgeably. And novices were working next to the experienced men.

As yet the young soldiers have served only a short time in the subunit, but they have already acquired definite skills in combat training. This can be seen having studied the schedule plan for working out problems in special training. Opposite the names of the new men are scores of simulated and real targets which they have tracked. The grades for a majority of the men are rather high, and this shows acquired skills and ability to orient oneself in the situation.

This can also be seen from the results of the above-mentioned training. The radar operators handled the set problem successfully. In summing up the results among the outstanding men the subunit commander officer Zinov'yev mentioned the young operators Pvts B. Umarov and O. Gozerchuk.

Let us note one characteristic feature of the training, and that is that the most crucial and instructive moments of the combat work were photographed and tape recorded. They always proceed thusly in the subunit. The

obtained objective monitoring materials are used for analyzing actions in one or another situation. As experience shows, a majority of the young officers at the outset do not possess steady and effective attention, and they lack a quick response to a change in the air situation. In order to instill the necessary skills in them, special training is conducted. Target blips are shown on the entire field of the screen using simulators. The operator must detect them and depending upon the parameters of the targets give the coordinates in a definite sequence.

If there are real targets in the air, the leader periodically turns the return signals on and off. The working conditions become more and more complicated from session to session. Flights of maneuvering targets are programmed and interference is introduced.

The best results are obtained if the specialists work in pairs which have been selected according to the principle of a young operator and an experienced plotter or an experienced operator and a young plotter. Each mistake by the new men in this instance will be noted and promptly eliminated.

The experienced training officer Capt V. Plakhtyukov creates a situation where there is at least one "difficult" target among all the others, that is a low flying, maneuvering and small sized target, an aircraft which employs jamming. The young operators learn to analyze the situation and to establish the sequence and importance of the information provided.

The new men learn from the experience of the best specialists. Here the young men are often given an opportunity to watch the actions of expert trackers and learn their skills. Let us imagine a picture which, incidentally, has been taken from real life. A new man was in front of the station screen. While there were a few targets in the air he was able to give their data easily and without error. But now new blips were appearing. The operator was beginning to rush and make mistakes and was unable to calculate the coordinates. And now there were more and more targets, they were maneuvering and using interference. And the young specialist finally could not keep up. He became confused and doubted the possibility of carrying out the mission under similar conditions.

Then his place was taken by an experienced specialist. The data began to be received precisely and rhythmically, and any maneuver of a target did not remain unnoticed. Then to the new man it seemed that the complicated and confusing situation was somehow becoming simpler and understandable. He had a stronger desire to himself master his specialty perfectly. The new man even more carefully followed the actions of his experienced comrade and noticed the "secrets" of his skills. And the latter, in turn, aided him in every possible way.

It happens that the young operators in remaining alone at the screen of the radar station are unable to mobilize their will and become lost. A special approach is needed for training such men. We can trace this from the example

of Pvt B. Umarov. At first he felt confident at the screen as long as an experienced operator was monitoring his actions. But as soon as he was left alone, Umarov began to make mistakes.

During one of the training sessions Umarov's actions were being monitored by Sgt A. Chuzha. Upon instructions from the subunit commander, he left the room at the moment that the situation began to become more complex. The young soldier immediately began to worry. And then orders came from the command post to accelerate the giving of the coordinates. The feeling of responsibility helped the soldier to mobilize all his forces and attention. And by this time he already had firm skills. And he crossed the psychological barrier and got as they say a "second wind." The operator gave the data without mistakes. Incidentally, he did not know that Sgt Chuzha was monitoring his actions using a remote indicator and was ready instantaneously to correct a mistake.

In using the new procedures it is very important to adhere to a sequence and that is that the developing of professional skills in the specialists must strictly follow the well known principle of instruction: from the simple to the complicated. Here, for example, is how Sr Lt M. Yusheyev acts in organizing the study of the tactical flying data of air attack weapons and one's own fighters by his subordinates. At the outset the men remember the speed and ceilings of the aircraft, and from photographs learn to determine the type of blip on the screen. Then the officer divided his subordinates into groups, considering their training and abilities. One group started training at the screen under conditions of the simplest real situation, and for the other it was created by simulators, and for the third least trained group, simple tactical problems were given. After the successful execution of several assignments, officer Yusheyev switches the operators to another group, and the strongest are put in a new group. More complicated elements and instructive situations are introduced in their training.

In the subunit they make certain that each training session contains new elements and the specialist is gradually accustomed to surprise in work. Following the experience of Lt A. Luka, they widely use training sessions for utilizing the optimum operating conditions of the equipment. These are conducted as follows. Initially the leader gives the possible nature of a target's maneuver and then reduces the brightness of the blip until it disappears completely. The operator should carry out the appropriate tuning of the indicator, redetect the target and considering the changes which have occurred in its route and altitude select the necessary operating conditions of the equipment. The speed, accuracy and correctness of the actions by the operators are judged by the exercise leader. Among the men there is a competition for a higher grade.

The use of the new procedures makes it possible to reduce the training time for the young recruits by almost one-third, to successfully carry out the tasks of flight combat training and to fulfill the socialist pledges.

EFFECTIVE TEACHING METHODS IN OFFICER SCHOOLS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by Lt Col A. Sychev: "The Value--In Repetition"]

[Text] Two years ago the editorial offices received a letter from the Khar'kov Guards Higher Tank Command School imeni the Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine. A young instructor from the gunnery chair, Guards Maj V. Kondratenko, who previously had commanded an officer candidate company asked what must be done for the most rapid mastery of a new specialty?

We must say outright that it was difficult to provide an exhaustive answer to the question raised. Teaching is a sort of art. And in order to master it it is essential to study first of all. One must learn from senior comrades and take up the experience of the best educators.

Advanced experience.... Each time that I am at the military schools I am convinced that on each chair there are instructors the work methods of which are worthy of attention. At times this is the ability to truly attract the audience and to light a vital interest in the examined subject. At times it is special procedures which provide maximum activeness of the trainees in practical exercises. And at times there is a certain "minor detail" which, if you investigate, substantially improves the quality of specialist training.

In this regard the following case comes to mind. Tank firing training was underway at the Chelyabinsk Higher Tank Command School imeni the 50th Anniversary of Great October. It was being conducted by the instructor from the gunnery chair Col A. Yakushev. The officer candidates worked smoothly and precisely. And suddenly a hitch, a malfunction had arisen.

Seemingly now they would have to summon the artillery expert and wait until the equipment had been put back in order. But everything occurred differently. Col Yakushev opened a toolbox which he took along for training exercises. Under the leadership of the instructor, the officer candidates in a few minutes had eliminated the malfunction and began again to work on the basic problems.

A savings in training time? Undoubtedly! However, this is not all. Col Yakushev clearly demonstrated how the principal of a comprehensive approach to training future officers is embodied in practice. In the course of the training, they obtained definite skills both in gunnery practice as well as in repairing weapons under field conditions. The benefit from this is obvious. And precisely for this reason soon thereafter the "Yakushev" cases appeared among many of the other instructors.

Of course the introduction of the innovation of Col Yakushev is just a particular example. The work of disseminating advanced experience is carried out on the chair in many areas. Here, as I was convinced, they regularly hold open lessons, the procedure for conducting the exercises on the most involved subjects are discussed ahead of time, and the questions are examined related to the most rational use of the training facilities. All of this helps the instructors to improve their pedagogical skills.

The leadership of the chair and the party organization are constantly struggling to introduce all that is new and progressive into practice without delay. And this work results in having the graduates show high firing skills year after year in the state examinations.

Why are not such results achieved everywhere? Well because in some places the experience is generalized and that is it. They stop before the main thing, that is, the introducing of it. And certainly generalization and introduction are not concepts of equal significance, although they are two stages in solving one and the same problem. But there is little benefit from the former without the latter. "It is time for us, comrades," said Comrade L. I. Brezhnev at the 18th Komsomol Congress, "to learn how to introduce advanced experience more effectively and to carry each useful undertaking to the end." But this ability and professionalism at times is lacking in the work which is done in the military schools to disseminate experience.

And it must be admitted that at times a chair becomes acquainted with a valuable initiative, a decision is taken to introduce it into practice, and after a month or two they totally forget about this. And the files of documents lie unused on the shelves of cabinets and safes until one of the senior chiefs becomes interested in what new had appeared in teaching methods. And then the files are brought out on the desk and here, they say, are the fruits of our labors.

Repeatedly in the schools, when the question was brought up of introducing the experience of the best instructors into practice, I was shown poster sheets. What are they? As a rule, this was a portrait of the instructor and under the portrait was the standard text: "He works constantly at improving political and special knowledge, and he prepares carefully for exercises." Such a sheet undoubtedly can be considered as a means of moral incentive, but it scarcely has any relationship to the effective dissemination of advanced experience.

Unfortunately, one must encounter such instances rather frequently. They speak about the best instructors at meetings and conferences. Their photographs are put up on the wall. But what led the specialist to the success and what could be borrowed from him--this main aspect of the question at times remains overlooked.

In this regard I remember a trip taken long ago to the Leningrad Higher Antiaircraft Missile Command School which last year was awarded the name of the 60th Anniversary of Great October. I was introduced to Engr Lt Col V. Chicherin.

"An outstanding instructor," was the description of him given by the chief of the training department Col G. Shatravka. "He is able to train officers with an aim for the future."

However when I became interested in what was the "secret" of Engr Lt Col Chicherin and what was being done so that the other instructors could use his work methods, they were unable to tell me anything definite. Moreover, the longer we talked the more emphatically it was stressed that the teaching of any subject has its specific features.

And certainly experience is a concrete concept. Undoubtedly there do exist specific features in each teaching discipline. But along with this there also exist uniform didactic principles and procedures which, depending upon the skill of the instructor, can be utilized better or worse in conducting the exercises. And why not take up the experience of those who constantly achieve high and stable results?

Incidentally it turned out that there was nothing so "specific" in the experience of the same Engr Lt Col Chicherin. It turned out that over an extended period of time he had systematized and worked out the data on the service of the school graduates in the troops.

For the sake of justice it must be said that the command, the political department and the party organization of the Leningrad Higher Antiaircraft Missile Command School imeni the 60th Anniversary of Great October were able to promptly revise their work of studying and practically introducing advanced experience. At present this work has been significantly intensified.

Recently I happened to visit the Khar'kov Guards Higher Tank Command School imeni the Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine. With satisfaction I learned that instructor V. Kondratenko whose letter to the editors I mentioned at the outset of this article had successfully mastered the instruction of future officers.

"My senior comrades have been and continue to be of great help to me," said Viktor Sergeyevich [Kondratenko]. "I am particularly grateful to Guards Lt Col Fedorenko. He has repeatedly been present at my exercises and has invited me to his. I have obtained a mass of good advice from him. And generally speaking our school has created such an atmosphere...."

This certainly is the basic thing, that is, an atmosphere of creative search and the desire of people to work better today than yesterday. Let us assume that the chair has held a demonstration exercise and it is clear to everyone that it was not held for the sake of a "tick" in a report. Without fail there will be both careful analysis, conclusions and recommendations. And then rigid control over the carrying out of the decisions taken.

"Yes, that is true!" stressed the chief of the school Guards Maj Gen Tank Trps Yu. Kutenkov. "The introduction of advanced experience without a daily check on execution is meaningless. And we must indoctrinate the men in such a manner that they themselves seek everything new and promising. In other words here there must be initiative both 'from above' and 'from below'."

And we must agree with this. Advanced experience is our priceless wealth and inexhaustible arsenal helping to move forward and to achieve more. And the value of experience is in its repetition.

10272

CSO: 1801

PROGRESS, PROBLEMS OF MILITARY TRADE SYSTEM REVIEWED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jul 78 p 4

[Article by Col O. Nachkebiya, chief of the Trade Directorate of the Southern Group of Forces: "In the Interests of the Customers"]

[Text] Along with all the workers in Soviet trade, the salesmen and commodity experts, the cooks and waiters and the other specialists of military trade are celebrating their professional holiday today. In carrying out the Decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers "On Measures to Further Develop Trade" and the recommendations of the All-Army Conference for Improving Troop Services, the military trade workers are endeavoring to more fully satisfy the needs of the men and their families for goods and services, and provide normal conditions for combat training and service of the personnel in the units and on the ships.

The family of Capt I. Gaponenko decided to purchase some new furniture. If it is considered that the officer serves in a small garrison where there is no furniture store, one might easily imagine what problems could arise. But they did not. The captain went to the garrison mail order firm. And from the sample album found there he selected the needed furnishings. A corresponding notation was made in the preliminary order book, and an order was sent out to the depot and soon thereafter the furniture was delivered directly from the depot to the house of Capt Gaponenko.

This in practice is how one of the new forms of trade introduced in our group of forces works. It probably most clearly reflects the present trend in the development of the service sphere, namely not to be limited to the direct sale of the goods, but rather to assume all the concomitant concerns of the purchaser. I would point out that this is not only beneficial for the purchaser, but also advantageous for the trade enterprises. Had the officer decided against this because of the troublesome undertaking of delivering the furniture, the military trade would have been deprived of the corresponding earnings. Thus good services are necessary for everyone.

Unfortunately it still frequently happens that the customers complain of unsatisfied demand for certain goods. At the same time these goods exist in sufficient supply and the purchaser merely does not see them on the shelf. Whether because of our slowness or out of our adhering to old work methods there is still dealing with the customer across the shelves. Can you put out many goods on it? At present the trade worker should not stand between the good and the customer. He should, to put it figuratively, help them find one another.

Just 4 years ago more than one-half of the purchases in the group of forces was carried out by a salesman. And how slowly the bulk of commodities was turned over with this. How many essential items lay at the warehouses! And the paradox ensued that the warehouses were overstocked but they complained of a shortage of floor space. Now the proportional amount of self-service has reached 81.5 percent of our total commodity turnover.

What has this provided? In the first place, the customer saves time. Secondly, the staff of workers at many stores has been reduced. In the food stores, there has been a significant increase in commodity turnover calculated per square meter of floor space. Since the capacity of the trade network has been increased, the demand for space has declined, and less money is required for building new stores.

An analysis of the placement of commodity inventories in the nonfood stores has shown that prior to converting them to self-service, more than one-half of the goods as a rule was in subsidiary space. Now up to 80 percent of the goods are moved to the purchaser from the subsidiary.

Certainly all of this has required a good deal of labor and effort. For example, in the trade and service enterprise led by Capt I. Ursu, they have repaired a number of the hardware and food stores, modern equipment has been installed in them, and the direction of the customer flow has been replanned. As a result the commodity turnover of the various hardware stores has increased by 40 and more percent during the 2 years.

In truth certain salesmen have feared that they would be unable to control each purchase. However practice has repudiated such fears. It was merely a question of all the trade workers mastering the new work methods and improving their skills. And this involved not only the salesmen. For example take the commodity expert. Along with the other specialists, he is now required to participate in working out the plans for the placement of equipment, the procedure for storing goods, to be concerned for observing the correct adjacent placement of the goods and to solve a mass of other questions.

A number of good specialists have grown up in the collective of the Friendship Store which from the results of the competition has been recognized as the best among the trade enterprises of the group of forces. I would like to mention Tamara Ivanovna Demidova. Initially she worked as a junior saleswoman and in a comparatively short period of time mastered this profession,

having shown herself to be courteous, correct and able to understand the customer and give him the necessary help. Recently Tamara Ivanovna was promoted to the position of deputy store director.

But still the self-service method cannot fully satisfy the needs of the customers. It has been well combined with other forms and methods of trade which consider the nature of the goods, the specific features of the trade areas, and the remoteness of one or another store from other trade enterprises. For example it is easier to sell military type goods, small household wares and haberdashery goods by the open display method, and for outer clothing, furniture, rugs and radios by using open access to these goods. As for catalog sales mentioned at the beginning of the article, this form is most effective in selling large articles such as furniture or pianos.

The use of various methods and forms in and of itself does not ensure maximum trade effectiveness or the satisfying of the needs of the customers. Here of importance are a creative approach to the question, a consideration of consumer demand and the developing of the tastes of people. We hold consumer conferences at which leading specialists speak. All the valid comments and requests of the purchasers are carried out. I recall that at one of the conferences the purchasers criticized the trade workers for rarely organizing fairs and hardware bazaars. Literally a week later a fair was held in the garrison.

The methods of studying the interests of the customers and the shaping of their demand vary. For example, in the Friendship Store it has become a tradition to hold sale exhibits of the goods prior to the start of each season. In the spring here they organized a sale exhibit of sports goods, camping equipment, fishing gear and seasonal children's toys. The customers were provided an opportunity to become acquainted with the innovations and directions in the development of fashion. The results of the sale exhibits were analyzed and the comments and requests of the purchasers were considered in drawing up the mass orders.

However it would be wrong to state that all goes well in our serving of the customers. We have many reserves for improving the quality of our work. In particular, we must work on eliminating the uneven introduction of progressive trade forms and methods. In some stores their proportional amount is significantly lower than the average for the trade directorate. There are also complaints of the low level of trade services. In a word, as the All-Army Conference on Improving Troop Services recommended, it is essential to see to it that the experience of the leading collectives be disseminated everywhere. We have developed a socialist competition under this motto.

To make a purchase a pleasant event in the family of a serviceman and to assume as many as possible of the problems related to this--in this the trade workers see their contribution to improving the everyday life of the troops.

CONSEQUENCES OF STEREOTYPED ACTIONS BY PILOTS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by Col V. Shtan'ko, military pilot-sniper: "New Equipment and Methodology: What Automatism Does the Pilot Need?"]

[Text] Squadron commander Lt Col V. Gorin was checking the flying techniques of Sr Lt V. Postnikov. The squadron commander was satisfied: the young pilot fulfilled all norms of flying under bad weather conditions with a high mark. It remained to land the aircraft and the 2d class preparation program would be successfully completed by Postnikov.

Then the fighter touched down on the concrete runway and there followed a swift landing run. But why didn't the pilot release the brake parachute? The squadron commander was forced to do this himself. But time already had been lost. The aircraft rolled beyond the landing strip. An entry appeared in the flight controller's log about a precondition for a flight accident through the fault of the crew.

Just how could such a vexing failure happen? No interruptions had been observed in this officer's flying. They began to check his skills--they were practiced until they were automatic. Strange as it may seem, however, it was the automatism which let the pilot down. The fact is that recently he had been flying only in a combat aircraft, and in the preflight preparations that day he again had practiced in the cockpit of a single-seater missile platform. After an intercept sortie he had flown with the checker. In the two-seater the switch for releasing the parachute is situated somewhat differently than in the combat aircraft. During the landing run the pilot felt for the switch with his hand in the customary place and of course did not find it.

An analysis of the precondition which was allowed revealed not only the pilot's guilt in ignoring training in the cockpit of a training aircraft, but also mistakes in the methodology and organization of these practices. It was learned that some flight commanders themselves underestimated the benefit of preflight trainings and conducted them in a formal manner. They believe that the best practice is an actual flight, and they do not require their subordinates to first practice the entire range of upcoming actions in the cockpit prior to each flight.

The fact that there had been a precondition for a flight accident disturbed the commander and subunit party organization. It gave them something to think about, for it only seems that one has to demand strict and precise observance of the order of preparing for flights and everything will fall into place. No, the root of the problem goes much more deeply to methodological mistakes in the training of flight personnel. This was the conclusion reached here after an incident which occurred in the winter training period.

Flight commander Maj V. Muganov was conducting special training with subordinates. A report came that a pilot in one of the air units unintentionally jettisoned external fuel tanks on the landing run. Muganov (by the way, as later turned out, he also "suffered" from a superficial attitude toward training sessions) himself at first checked how this pilot could confuse the buttons. Having been convinced that this was not difficult--they are next to each other and the safety caps open in identical fashion--the flight commander gave his subordinates the following instructions:

"In general it is this way: this button can be pressed, but not this one in any case. At least during a landing. Be careful not to do it the other way around. Practice until it becomes automatic."

The instructor's vague wordings merely confused the trainees. Everything had been in order prior to this training session, but after it one of the pilots also jettisoned the tanks during a landing as if trying to repeat the mistake of his colleague from the adjacent unit!

"I became confused," he said, making excuses. "I was afraid I would press the wrong button. When the tanks rolled along the runway I realized that I still had made a mistake."

In comparing the pilots' errors, one inevitably arrives at the conclusion that there is one reason for them--an absence of precision and strict consistency in conducting preflight training sessions. This is a direct result of the methodological immaturity of some flight commanders, their insufficient competency in matters of military pedagogics and psychology, and their inability to perform a thorough analysis of complex psychophysiological phenomena. But this often leads to flight errors even after what appears to be a carefully conducted training session at which the entire sequence of actions has been practiced to automatism.

Then the apology for an instructor rushes to the other extreme in overestimating automatism in the pilot's actions: He "accuses" automatism in all the pilot's mistakes. Just where does the truth lie?

As a matter of fact, is it not paradoxical that the very automatism which saves aviators in aerial combat and in critical flight situations when conditions arise where there is an acute time deficit suddenly turns from the pilot's friend into his enemy at specific moments of flight? The same

thing also happened with me. This happened long ago, but I recall all its details. Once after an intercept under bad weather conditions I was returning to the air field with a low fuel reserve. And so that the landing controller could immediately identify my aircraft among the multitude of blips on the screen, I decided to switch on supplementary gear. But what was this? Something suddenly began hissing behind the cockpit. I looked and saw that the fire extinguishing button had been pressed! How had I pressed it? Simple: the switch for turning on radio gear had been in this position in the other series of this aircraft which I had flown previously. Automatism had functioned.

Then what automatism does a pilot need, and does he need it at all? There is no question that he needs it. Automatism of actions--I will not fear this word--is vitally necessary to the pilot at those speeds at which modern aircraft fly, as well as in the rapidly changing situation of aerial combat. But it is an /intelligent/[in boldface] automatism. For how do the inexperienced or mentally lazy methodologists sin? In essence, they wean the pilot from thinking in the cockpit and perceiving every action.

At first glance it appears impossible to think through and monitor one's actions in those seconds or even fractions of seconds which the pilot has. But it is impossible not to take account of the features of thinking in flight. The brain adapts to a constant deficit of time and thought processes are greatly accelerated in it. One only has to give it training, give it food for thought, as they say, and as often as possible, at every training session which is arranged in a methodologically correct manner. Then there will not be those breakdowns about which we were speaking. All of them occurred during landing. But it is no secret that failures sometimes happen in combat as well. And how disappointing it is when an experienced pilot makes a very inadmissible mistake due to an inability to monitor his own actions in the air.

Capt A. Polevkin received the mission of knocking down a radio-controlled target with one missile. The CP controller directed his missile platform accurately to the target, but the attack failed. Why? At the decisive moment, instead of switching the toggle from the "volley" position to single missile launch, the pilot moved a switch which had nothing to do with weapons. Here is how it happens: the officer was not on his first target intercept; he practiced before the flight in all tactical problems; and commanders and instructors monitored his training. But he stumbled on the simplest thing. Wasn't it vexing that with the absolutely faultless operation of all weapons systems, the actual missile launch did not take place? Another pilot knocked down that target with the first pass. He does not rely on experience--he is still rather young and so tried to monitor his every action.

Some young pilots repeat aloud the order of actions during training sessions, and sometimes even in flight, as if asking themselves what they plan to switch on: whether it be a lever, valve, button, switch and so on.

Skilled methodologists encourage these and other most effective methods of pilot self-monitoring in every possible way. They do not tolerate machine-like, thoughtless actions and require subordinates to delve into the physical essence of phenomena caused by a particular manipulation of the equipment. This is especially important when retraining on new aviation equipment, when it is necessary to fight old habits and automatism in those actions which have become reflex through many repetitions.

But this is not simple. At times old habits "produce a belch," crudely speaking, after much time has elapsed. For example, in retraining on a new type of fighter, Sr Lt V. Katayev once was almost let down by his flying techniques which he assimilated aboard a helicopter even before entry into the school. At low speed he suddenly began to work the pedals sharply, which is unsafe in a fighter. The experienced instructor noticed this in time, dug into the reasons for this precondition and helped his subordinate get rid of his old habits.

The breaking of established stereotypes in connection with a transition to new combat equipment and their replacement with fresh habits takes place more successfully, the more sophisticated the retraining methodology and the more thoughtful the analysis of trainees' psychological peculiarities. For example, there is a great deal I like in the methodological practice of flight commander Capt V. Sergeyev. And it is not only the fact that he himself is excellently trained: he is a first-class pilot and a master of sport in advanced flying.

Capt Sergeyev prepares thoroughly for the organization and conduct of each training session. His narrative is laconic in a military manner and his demonstration is precise. All this precludes various ambiguities and vagueness. This commander also requires his subordinates to practice actions to automatism, but a perceived automatism, and to reinforce perceived skills. While playing out a flight the trainees tell and show in detail what they will do at a particular moment of the take-off, the search for targets and their attack, as well as when coming in for a landing. And the dynamic flight model is fixed not only by the motor and mechanical memory, but also by mental memory. After such training sessions the pilots operate competently and vigorously in the air, without superfluous stress and usually faultlessly. I recall the difficulties experienced by a pilot of this flight, Capt Yu. Zolotarevskiy, in retraining to a new missile platform. But he was among the first to take off on his own and now is successfully mastering the program for combat employment of a variable geometry wing aircraft.

They say in the Air Force that the only one with the right to fly is the person who has fully and completely fulfilled his obligations of preparing for that flight. It is difficult to overestimate the role of methods competence of commanders--the indoctrinators of aerial fighting men--in each pilot attaining this right.

6904

CSO: 1801

INEFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF ADVANCED METHODS IN NGF NOTED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by Lt Col A. Pimenov, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent for Northern Group of Forces: "Introduce Foremost Experience Efficiently: But the Cart is There to This Day"]

[Text] I spent some time in weapons training classes in several subunits of Tank Regiment "X." All of them were conducted under a single methodological format: target reconnaissance by observation--firing--practice in fire control. But in spite of this uniformity it was not difficult to notice essential differences in their conduct and in the organization of socialist competition as well.

For example, in the tank company commanded by Sr Lt A. Davletmuratov, the following fact drew attention to itself in particular: Davletmuratov and his subordinate platoon commanders were skillfully using the individual approach in training tankers. In particular, to this end the officers were keeping a log of the firers' mistakes.

I asked the company commander what this log provided.

"A very great deal," said the officer. "An analysis of mistakes allows making a thorough critique of the trainees' actions in summarizing results. In addition, it provides an opportunity to monitor the increase in professional expertise of each tanker, and most important, to influence his training efficiently."

To confirm his conclusions, the senior lieutenant opened the log to a page which registered results of the first firing in the summer training period. There was a "two" opposite the name of Jr Sgt I. Otmakhov. Here, too, were the commander's notes: "Lays uniformly, chooses point of aim correctly, but does not consider VIR [range rate]" (amount of change in range). Then followed the recommendation: Study rules for correcting fire.

It was apparent from subsequent pages of the log that the junior sergeant got rid of his shortcomings: good marks settled firmly opposite his name. Things stood in a similar manner for the other tankers. In short, the log, this unique methods diary, did in fact give the commander real tangible assistance in training the soldiers. Such logs are not kept in other subunits of the unit.

I was told in the regimental party committee that the company headed by Sr Lt Davletmuratov had been best in the regiment for more than the first year now and it was in the lead now as well. But the subunits commanded by Sr Lt V. Sedinin and Sr Lt A. Sergeyev had not fulfilled their socialist pledges in the winter training period: they had planned the goal of outstanding, but they had not gone above a satisfactory result in weapons training. Davletmuratov's experience would have stood them in very good stead.

Just how are things in the regiment with generalization of foremost experience?

"We try to present the foremost methodology of weapons training in demonstration classes and when summarizing competition results," said the regimental commander. "But this year we did not generalize the experience of any of our better commanders."

The experience was not generalized in the regiment. And in higher headquarters staff officer Lt Col V. Radzhibayev repeated almost word for word what the regimental commander had said in response to my question: experience also was not generalized.

The Letter of the CPSU CC, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol CC on development of socialist competition in 1978 and other guideline documents on socialist competition stress with special force the idea about the need to generalize and widely disseminate foremost experience. Under Army conditions, as we know, foremost experience is a powerful accelerator for improving the combat expertise of soldiers and increasing combat readiness of units and subunits. And this reserve must be used to the full extent.

It would appear to be an obvious truth, but nevertheless we often have occasion to encounter instances where the generalization and dissemination of experience is not given proper attention. In particular, that is how things are here as well.

Just how does the combat training department of the group of forces, which is called upon to be a tireless propagandist and champion of everything that is new and foremost, react to this?

"Our officers constantly devote attention to generalizing foremost experience," said deputy department chief Col V. Maslov. "This also is reflected in their socialist pledges."

Engr-Col V. Zolotarev, secretary of the department party organization, familiarized me with the officers' socialist pledges. As a matter of fact, each of them had a special paragraph denoting participation in generalizing experience. True, these pledges were very diffuse and vague.

Foremost experience is a specific concept. It is termed foremost because its inherent techniques and methods for organizing labor differ from those generally accepted and provide greater effectiveness. And to generalize foremost experience means to identify and show that new element which characterizes the work of a person or a collective. This specific approach to introducing foremost experience is lacking in the combat training department of the group of forces.

A commission of the Main Staff of the Ground Forces, which conducted a check here in the spring of this year, pointed out this shortcoming. In so doing it also gave the precise addresses for foremost experience. Named in particular among the best methodologists whose experience merited dissemination among the troops were company commander Sr Lt Davletmuratov and some other officers. But over two months have gone by since then and the experience of the best commanders still has not been generalized.

In the opinion of Engr-Col Zolotarev, foremost experience is contained in seven methods training aids developed by department officers in this training year. There is no doubt that certain training aids can serve as a prop for class leaders, but one can hardly speak of the fact that foremost training methodology is concentrated in them. A majority of them retell generally known truths. One of the training aids, for example, is called "List of Norms to be Performed During Firings." Let us note that it is not the methodology for performing them, but merely a list. There is no more "experience" contained in another aid--"List of Firing Exercises and Calculation of Ammunition."

To generalize foremost experience and elaborate methods recommendations on its basis is only the beginning. Most important is to introduce this experience and see to it that it "works" actively. What is being done to this end? A rally of outstanding persons was held in the group of forces in the summer training period. An exchange of experience among the best specialists was organized here. The combat training department took an active part in conducting the rally. Department officers also hold instructional methods and demonstration classes at commanders' courses, where foremost training methodology is propagandized.

But how are those methods training aids which are prepared by department officers used in troop units of the group? I asked about this in several tank subunits. Inasmuch as the training aids were designed chiefly for company commanders, it was to them I turned.

It turned out that tank company commander Sr Lt Yu. Mel'nikov had only the training aid on drill training from among the methods elaborations of the department. True, the officer also showed us a methods elaboration on conducting tank gunnery training, but Lt Col V. Kolodkin, the acting regimental commander who was present during our conversation, advised Mel'nikov to "hide" that training aid "as far away as possible"--it had been published several years ago, was obsolete and should not be used by him.

Company commander Gds Sr Lt G. Alekseyenko was acting battalion chief of staff and so was speaking not only for his own subunit:

"I have commanded the company here since October of last year, and during this time I have not received any training aids. There are also none of them in the battalion. I know this now for sure."

And so I spoke with ten officers in several units. It turned out that some had individual training aids elaborated by the combat training department, but for various reasons they were not using them, while they would have liked to use others but did not have them.

An obvious conclusion stems from what has been said: the combat training department of the Northern Group of Forces is working insufficiently and with little effect on generalizing and introducing foremost experience. It cannot be said that party members of the department have reconciled themselves with the shortcomings. At the last report-election party meeting they said that more had to be done with generalization and introduction of experience, but things did not get moving from this point on. In February of this year the political department of the staff and directorate of the group studied the work of the department party organization to generalize foremost experience. In May the group political directorate studied the work of the party organization on this same matter. The very same shortcomings again were pointed out. But as we see, the cart is there to this day. All the same, it is time to move on from talks about the benefit of foremost experience to its practical generalization and implementation.

6904

CSO: 1801

USE OF TRAINING SIMULATORS IN THE SIBERIAN M.D. REVIEWED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Jul 78 p 1

[Article by Maj A. Yurkin, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent for Red Banner Siberian Military District: "Effectiveness and Quality are Most Important: From Trainers to Complexes"]

[Text] One of the most important directions in the struggle for effectiveness and quality of combat training is the improvement of the training facility. Many units and subunits are successfully using trainers and other sophisticated gear created by the hands of rationalizers. As practice shows, the effect from their introduction is very tangible.

But is everything being done to be sure that there is a maximum return from the new training facility and that classes there are of high quality and at a high methods level?

A group of rationalizers headed by Engr-Lt Lysenko were modernizing the equipment of a radiotelegraphers' training classroom. Here the rationalizers took commercially produced gear as the basis, but made their own changes to it. At their suggestion, which was examined by the commander and unit methods council, a medium power radio station was installed in the classroom. This made it possible to practice norms of tuning the receiver and transmitter right while classes were going on. Alternation of work on the key with tuning the units increased the results of each training hour. In addition, groups of radiotelegraphers with varying levels of training now can work in the same classroom. Hours of self-training and practice training sessions also are more effective.

The rationalizers did not dwell on what had been achieved, however. All training classrooms were brought together into a single complex which structurally resembled a communications center. Implementation of this plan allowed achieving significant savings of supplies. Now specialist training and practices are conducted just as they are during trips to the field and their quality is considerably higher.

Supervision on the part of class leaders and staff officers also improved with this integrated training method. The control point of the practice communications center permits two-way communications to be maintained with the training points. Company commanders and the battalion commander have an opportunity to monitor the progress of classes in each auditorium.

Other units in the district also are working successfully to improve the training facility. For example, Regiment "X" has set up a system for moral-psychological training. A specially designated sector of the training center resembles a block of a devastated city. During classes the situation is brought as near to that of combat as possible: everything is burning and breathing fire. The elements of intelligent risk included in the training program forge strong characters and the readiness and ability to perform any order of the commander.

Development of a trainer complex for teaching tank driving also attests to the effectiveness of the rationalizers' creative exploration. Siberian M.D. personnel are proud that their brainchild is being used at the "Vystrel" Courses. There are now several such complexes in the district. One of them, which has been installed in the district training center, even surpasses its brother now located at the Courses in technical execution. Engr-Maj V. Lizunkin, one of the developers and testers of the trainer complex, intends to expand its capabilities.

The Siberian M.D. personnel also have another technical innovation, although it is true that for now it is less well-known. An automated tank training area has been set up at the district training center. All the driver-mechanics' actions here are impartially monitored by electronic instruments. They register mistakes and help the class leader take account of individual features of each tanker. In addition, automation has increased the intensity of classes and permitted a release of specialists who had to be used for control on the course.

Simple calculations show that use of the trainer complex permits saving very significant resources in the training of one driver-mechanic. In addition to this, however, the merit of automatic equipment also lies in the fact that it permits preparing tankers for independent driving of the combat vehicles in compressed time periods.

But here is what is now troubling: One of the best complexes situated at the district training center is essentially idle. There is a lack of qualified specialists for servicing it. The automated tank training area also is not being used at full load for this same reason.

The introduction of trainer complexes into the training system requires a substantial revision of the attitude toward them. Above all we have to prepare personnel who are capable of working on the sophisticated training equipment. Unfortunately, for the time being a majority of young officers do not possess sufficient methods skills and are not ready to hold classes involving wide use of trainer resources. Therefore preference sometimes is given to training on authorized equipment even where trainers exist.

LIVING CONDITIONS IN THE FAR NORTH DESCRIBED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Jul 78 p 2

[Article by Col P. Altunin: "The Arctic: Warmth of the Soldier's Home"]

[Text] The North is severe and full of contrasts of nature. In winter there are ringing frosts of fifty degrees below zero and whistling blizzards. The polar night reigns for months at a time and then only the lanterns on posts trace the path into the messhall, the club or the guardhouse. And in summer there is the sun that never sets. But in places the snows can't even melt under its weak rays. The snowflakes are scattered like white kerchiefs along the hollows between the brown peaks. Even in summer in broad daylight the horizon will suddenly blacken and swirling storm clouds already will be rushing from that direction with an unknown threat--torrential rain or slashing flakes of snow.

Service is not easy in the Arctic, but true to their duty, the soldiers oppose the forces of nature with courage and steadfastness. Combat training is in full swing here at any season of the year. And after having worked, the soldiers hurry to their own home, the barracks, where they are awaited by comfort, and in the evening they head for the club, the library or the teahouse. And where the soldiers' everyday living and leisure is the focus of the commanders and political officers' attention on a daily basis, and where the soldiers are sufficiently provided with everything at all times, there their hearts are warm and they go on any assignment with a good mood. It is not by chance that it is said that good living is an assistant to service.

That is just how things are in the subunit commanded by Capt V. Bas'ko. The barracks building has a modest and plain appearance, but inside it is cozy and well arranged. Excellently made cots are lined up in a strict row and there are light curtains on the windows. The personal services room has everything necessary for putting clothing in order and for soldiers to shave and receive haircuts. Personal articles are stored in cabinets. The soldiers are distinguished by their dashing bearing and many wear the emblems of highly rated specialists on their chests.

"The first sergeant is the guardian of order for us," says the company commander. "His exactingness and concern for people are inseparable."

As a matter of fact, WO Zavgorodniy is not only strict, but paternally solicitous as well. In the messhall he personally makes sure that the soldiers receive everything authorized. When teams are sent into the cold to go on watch or for work, he checks the felt boots, pants and mittens to see whether or not they are worn out. He is most solicitous of his subordinates' health. Anything can happen in the North: you can even catch a cold. Once, seeing an unhealthy flush in the faces of privates V. Slebedyuk and D. Limich during morning inspection, the warrant officer immediately sent them to the medical station.

The company's soldiers take an active part together with coworkers from other subunits in the amateur activities directed by WO Vladimir Vitushkin. Heads of local organs of authority and leaders in production often are guests of the soldiers.

In becoming familiar with the life and training of the subunits and chatting with the soldiers, one becomes convinced with his own eyes that the day-to-day concern of the party and government for the soldiers is clearly reflected in the well-arranged military posts and barracks, in the high calorie nutrition, the warm clothing and the well-arranged medical support. The All-Army Conference for Improving Troop Living gave a powerful impetus to this work.

"Immediately after the conference," said the commander of Unit "X," "we discussed its results and our tasks stemming from it in the party collectives. We worked out our own plans and they are being fulfilled."

Together with rear services workers officers V. Golenko and A. Koval'chuk, we go to the messhall, to the depots and into the barracks. Much has changed for the better here in recent times. The dining room in the messhall has been transformed and has become more spacious. There are melalite dishes on the tables. Not too long ago the soldiers' canteen was right here behind a partition, but now it has its own area.

We drop into the canteen. It is called "Comfort" and it fully lives up to its name: it is a real oasis of warmth and comfort. There are panels on the walls: Russian birches are scattered about a cheerful clearing. There are little pots of bluebells. Samovars stand on the tables. Soldiers are drinking tea. Nearby, behind an azure curtain, are those who like to read and play chess. The canteen manager, Galina Alekseyevna Bosak, greeted us like a polite hostess.

When we began speaking about the All-Army Conference and its recommendations, the commanders and rear services officers spoke enthusiastically about plans for the future--creation of a personal services combine, installing showers in each barracks and expanding the dairy.

Initiative and intelligent management under conditions of the North are valued very highly, for the simplest thing is to say "There is permafrost underfoot and you can't drive in a post." Unfortunately this very reasoning still exists in places. The necessities are there: the soldier is full, dressed and is warm in the barracks--what more is necessary? In reasoning this way, the comrades forget that our man the Soviet soldier now is not filled by bread alone. He has great cultural and esthetic needs. We have to work for the sake of satisfying them.

A lack of zeal or vim in work leads to disorder. This shows up in things large and small. For example, WO I. Yakovenko does not keep an eye on the temperature in the barracks, while builders headed by Officer O. Petrov left a heap of things unfinished when they turned over the hospital.

And it is a completely different picture where people work sincerely, imaginatively and with a sense of responsibility. The soldiers' messhall, teahouse and officers' canteen in the unit where Officer N. Papkov is responsible for rear services work can truly be called exemplary. The work of officer's wife N. Pavleshchuk, a dairy manager, merits high praise. She has been working for seven years now on the dairy farm set up with the unit. Each cow--and there are 25--provides over 4,000 liters of milk. This is nourishment for the children and often an addition to the soldiers' rations.

Another enthusiast, L. Revtova, is the equal of Pavleshchuk. She is in charge of a hothouse where up to 600 tons of vegetables are grown in covered soil, and in summer in open soil. It is hard to believe that red, meaty, half-kilogram tomatoes and juicy, half-meter cucumbers grow here in the North. Raspberries and the black-fruited ashberries, parsley, lettuce and celery--what doesn't this hothouse have! Now work is underway to expand it.

In his speech at the All-Army Conference for Improving Troop Living, USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov said: "The measures of the party and government to improve the everyday living of soldiers must be backed up by a high degree of organizational work in outlying areas and by the desire to reveal existing reserves and raise the creativity and initiative of all servicemen for successful accomplishment of this task." Initiative needs a good nutrient medium and the appropriate friendly atmosphere. It is created by managers and by party and Komsomol organizations. They support initiative in every possible way, realizing how important this is under local conditions.

Of course, there are many objective difficulties under conditions of the Far North. It is difficult, for example, to deliver supplies, some places lack construction equipment, and there are no television sets at some "sites": the relay network is not yet ready. These problems are being solved, but there are shortcomings which are explained by the extreme lack of administrative abilities on the part of some officials, by their ignorance of the matter or an indifference toward it. This must be combatted. The commanders, political officers, party organizations and people's controllers

have no small part to play here. They have to disseminate foremost experience wider and reveal shortcomings more acutely.

Recently Arm Gen S. Kurkotkin, deputy minister of defense of the USSR and chief of rear of the USSR Armed Forces, visited remote garrisons of the Arctic. He familiarized himself with the life of units and subunits, with their technical and medical support and with living conditions and organization of cultural leisure. In conferences with commanders, political officers and rear services officers, he called upon them to take a more responsible attitude, from a state position, toward safekeeping and improvement of the housing, toward nourishment and accommodations of the soldiers, and to show paternal concern for their health.

Our party has elevated concern for the people's welfare to the highest principle of its work. This was confirmed with new vigor in decisions of the July Plenum of the CPSU CC, which discussed the question of further development of agriculture.

The party and government show special concern for the valorous defenders of the Motherland--the Soviet soldiers. Responding to this concern in deeds, the commanders, political officers and rear services officers of remote northern garrisons are doing a great deal to see that the soldiers' everyday living meets modern requirements and that the warmth and attention toward the people generate in them a spirited mood and a desire to augment successes in training and service.

6904

CSO: 1801

USE OF BREZHNEV BOOKS IN POLITICAL TRAINING DISCUSSED

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Sep 78 p 2 LD

[Unattributed report: "Mastering the Leninist Style of Work"]

[Excerpts] The remarkable books of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, "Malaya Zemlya" and "Rebirth," are enjoying tremendous popularity in the army and navy, and readers' interest in them is unflagging. The books give clear examples of the creative application of Leninist methods, forms and modes of approach tested by the practice of recommendation in further raising the quality and efficiency of organizational and political work, and they are helping commanders, political organizers, and party organizations to improve their practical activities in training and educating Soviet soldiers and strengthening the combat readiness of the forces.

Recently, the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate Bureau listened to Comrade Korshunov, chief of a political section, speaking on how the study of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's books has been organized in units and subunits and how political officer cadres are implementing in their everyday work the recommendations and advice set out in them.

Fulfilling the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and subsequent party Central Committee plenums in the area of ideological education, as well as the recommendations contained in the works and speeches of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, political organizers and party organizations have insured a further improvement in mass agitation work, the political training of soldiers, and the methodological and theoretical training of propagandists on the basis of the comprehensive approach. Relying on the provisions in "Malaya Zemlya" and "Rebirth," they are devoting great attention to the study of personnel, the quality of individual educational work, the rallying of military collectives, and the creation in them of an atmosphere of comradeship and exactingness.

At the same time, however, as was noted during the discussion, political organizers and party organizations are still not using every opportunity

to improve their activities in the light of the demands of the 25th CPSU Congress and the instructions of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev. In particular, a proper principled and strict attitude is not always insured in evaluating neglect in the training process and the work of Communists in insuring a high level of combat readiness in every subunit. The educational potential of socialist competition in units is inadequately exploited at times, and sometimes its dissemination and the propagandization and introduction of leading experience are not carried out fully. Not everything has yet been done to insure that work involved in educating personnel in a spirit of high vigilance and strict fulfillment of military regulations and of the demands of military discipline becomes more efficient.

On the whole approving the activities of political sections and party organizations, the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate Bureau recommended fuller exploitation of existing potential for improving the efficiency of organizational and ideological political work and even more persistent implementation of the 25th Party Congress decisions, the demands of CPSU Central Committee resolutions, and the instructions and recommendations expressed by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in the books "Malaya Zemlya" and "Rebirth," his speech at the 18th Komsomol Congress, his speeches during this tour of Siberia and the Far East, and his report at the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum.

Political organizers and party organizations must concentrate on solving key problems of combat readiness, combat and political training, and the strengthening of military discipline. They must also direct the efforts of personnel toward the successful completion of the training year, the implementation to a high standard of the tasks set by the USSR Defense Ministry and the plans of combat and political training, and the unconditional fulfillment of socialist pledges. It is necessary to develop more actively the creativity and initiative of soldiers in studying equipment and improving combat skills, and to use more fully the educational and mobilizing role of socialist competition in the struggle to achieve high indicators during training and to improve the quality and efficiency of the training process.

Political organizers and party organizations must make maximum use of the experience of party political work and the recommendations contained in Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's books in order to insure a steady improvement in the ideological standard of efficiency of mass and individual political educational work, they must display greater concern for introducing a comprehensive approach toward resolving educational tasks, and they must take more into account the changes occurring in soldiers' lives, the current requirements for the moral, political, and psychological hardening of soldiers, and the increased requirements and standard of general educational training for personnel. It is necessary to continue increasing the solidarity of military collectives and their role in the struggle against violations of regulations, military discipline, and the demands of communist morality.

It was emphasized in the discussion that in order to successfully implement the 25th Party Congress decisions, it is necessary to exploit more fully the ideological-theoretical and political wealth of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's books, to persistently improve the style and methods of work, to improve the efficiency of the efforts of political organizers and party organizations, and to focus them on political work right here in the units and subunits.

The task is to insure a steady and high degree of party influence in crucial sectors determining combat readiness. Political organizers must constantly improve their leadership of party organizations, take care to strengthen party groups and organizations in subunits, increase their militancy, and display concern for developing the party element among servicemen in leading professions.

It was noted during the discussion that the political directorates of branches of the armed forces, military districts, groups of forces, and fleets must persistently and purposefully concentrate the attention and efforts of political organizers and party organizations on implementing the 25th Party Congress decisions and Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's instructions and must provide specific and effective assistance in improving their organizational and political work.

CSO: 1801

ACTIVITIES OF BELORUSSIAN DOSAAF CLUB DESCRIBED

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 11 Jun 78 p 2

[Article by Maj Gen (Res) P. Masherov, head of the republic club of DOSAAF BSSR: "Components of Effectiveness"]

[Excerpts] Over a year has passed since the Eighth All-Union DOSAAF Congress. The decisions made there, which basically stem from the requirements of the CPSU concerning improving the defensive capabilities of the country, pointed to specific ways to enhance mass-defense work and represent a clearly defined program for DOSAAF organizations. Thus, the people at our Belorussian DOSAAF Club see their task as the implementation of the decisions of the congress as well as helping to improve the military-patriotic indoctrination of workers in every way possible.

A large number of propaganda measures are being conducted through the efforts of regular workers and activists of the DOSAAF club. Suffice it to say that during 1977 and the beginning of this year more than a thousand lectures and talks were given and 80 evening instructional programs were held in DOSAAF organizations. During this same period 4 propaganda runs were organized, in the course of which political propaganda brigades visited 26 rayons in the republic.

A people's university for military-patriotic indoctrination of young people below draft age, eight lecture bureaus and a permanent seminar of chairmen of primary organization committees and propagandists of DOSAAF are working in conjunction with the DOSAAF club.

That is the picture as far as numbers are concerned. However, even with the importance of such statistics as the extent of the audience, the areas covered by talks, etc., the uppermost factor in military-patriotic propaganda was and always will be its high ideological-political level, party enthusiasm, and the ability of a propagandist to instill in the hearts and minds of the people the Leninist concepts on protecting our socialist homeland.

A resolution of the Eighth All-Union DOSAAF Congress states: "Under the guidance of party and governmental organs DOSAAF organizations must continually

strive to increase the quality and effectiveness of mass-defense work, of the dissemination of military knowledge, and of the military-patriotic indoctrination of workers..."

How is this task being resolved by our club? Guided by the Leninist tenet that the ideological-political force of lectures, as well as their content, is determined "wholly and exclusively by the lecture staff," we are giving special attention to the indoctrination of non-staff propagandists and to their theoretical and instructional training. Lately our lecture group, which numbers about 40 people, at the DOSAAF club has been reinforced with new, qualified propagandists.

Of the new types of military-patriotic propaganda which currently are receiving wider and wider distribution, we ought to mention the practical-scientific conferences and seminars. Last year and at the beginning of this year two of these conferences were held with the active support of the DOSAAF club: at the primary organization of the "Integral" Technical-Production Association on the subject of "Protecting the achievements of the October revolution -- a nationwide concern" and at the State University imeni V. I. Lenin entitled "60 years of watching over the achievements of the revolution."

Returning to the matter of numbers, I want to stress this approach. Of course we are making every effort to reach as many DOSAAF primary organizations as possible, not only in the city of Minsk but also in the more remote areas of the republic, as well. And we are trying to get to as many persons, especially young people, as possible with our measures, but we are doing all this with no loss in quality. Experience has shown that an emphasis on a large number of measures and "impressive" figures in practice frequently results in doctrinairism and showy displays without substance. We adhere to the rule: the smaller the better, and the better, the more interesting and stimulating.

One of the components found in effective military-patriotic propaganda is its efficiency. In this respect it should be noted that the newspaper SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in March of last year (the article was entitled "Behind a Barricade of Excuses") printed some critical comments about our club concerning its slow publicizing of the decisions of the Eighth All-Union DOSAAF Congress and its lagging in the use of visual propaganda techniques. The party organization and club employees drew the right conclusions from the criticism and took the necessary steps to eliminate their shortcomings.

For many years now the DOSAAF club has been publishing monthly calendars containing plans for propagandistic and mass-organizational action. They also include notes about advanced techniques of republic organizations, as well as practices employed in mass-defense, military-patriotic, training and sports work. Activists are receiving the necessary orientation, information about the activities of DOSAAF organizations, and useful material for indoctrination work.

We are giving serious attention to efficiency in the publication of plans. Now they are reaching the raykoms several days before the beginning of the next month. In addition, we are taking an interest in how materials are being used locally and how the positive programs about which I have spoken are being introduced.

Also speed and efficiency have increased in the issuing of other publications from our DOSAAF club.

We have dwelt on only a few situations in the operations of the DOSAAF club in carrying out the decisions of the Eighth All-Union DOSAAF Congress, primarily on the important question of how to increase the effectiveness and quality of military-patriotic work. However, I would have been wrong to overemphasize our achievements and neglect our existing shortcomings.

Relying on a large public aktiv, the people at the DOSAAF club will continue to improve their organizational and indoctrination work, as well as increase its efficiency and effectiveness. And the criteria indicating success in the military-patriotic indoctrination of DOSAAF members are the specific efforts of members in strengthening the might of our country and the level of work of DOSAAF organizations.

6754

CSO: 1801

NEED FOR BETTER DOSAAF FINANCIAL CONTROL DISCUSSED

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 11 Jun 78 p 2

[Article by G. Tomilin, chairman of the Central Auditing Commission DOSAAF USSR: "Improve Financial Control"]

[Text] With its extensive resources plus the help and attention of party and governmental organs, DOSAAF is in a position to make great strides forward in military-patriotic and mass-defense work with its members. Annually tens of millions of rubles are being spent by committees on capital construction, the acquisition of equipment, and mass-defense, training and sports activities.

Good results have been achieved in creating and building up the financial and training equipment bases, as well as in developing cost accounting and production operations. Nevertheless, in order for DOSAAF committees and organizations to be wiser and more economy-minded in their applications of money and equipment, a strict accounting of every ruble is necessary.

After going over the financial-management activities of the Society for 1977, the presidium of the DOSAAF Central Committee USSR instructed DOSAAF committees to work out and implement, based on the requirements of the December (1977) plenum of the Central Committee CPSU, measures which would significantly improve the financial-management operations of all DOSAAF elements and lead to better utilization of fixed capital, the training equipment base, motor vehicle transportation, and the monetary and labor resources of DOSAAF. Auditing commissions -- our organs of public control -- have been assigned an important role in seeing to the successful fulfillment of these tasks.

With this in mind much is being done by the Central Auditing Commission of DOSAAF USSR. It annually plans and carries out at least 12 audits of units directly subordinate to the Central Committee of DOSAAF USSR. The main attention of the commission is focused on whether monetary and management operations are being conducted legally and properly, and if the maintaining of public property and an accurate and truthful accounting system is being adhered to.

Lately, while carrying out the directives of the Eighth All-Union DOSAAF Congress, the Central Auditing Commission has been occupied with matters

related to providing DOSAAF organizations with commodity stocks, as well as with the production activity of DOSAAF enterprises. We should note that this work has yielded positive results. For example, on the basis of our audit the Central Commercial-Supply Base took steps which resulted in the improved procurement and the timely shipment of goods to committees and training organizations of the Society.

While carrying out the decisions of the Eighth All-Union DOSAAF Congress auditing commissions of a number of DOSAAF organizations have been performing their own duties energetically and responsibly. For example, the Gor'kovskaya, Omskaya and Astrakhan'skaya oblast, the Pavlovo-Posadskiy city, and the Petrogradskiy (Leningrad) rayon auditing commissions are doing a good job. These commissions and their chairmen N. Lavrov, P. Ivanov, Yu. Stolyarov, S. Lopushenkov and G. Ivanov are gaining much prestige through their practical work. They carefully plan their work and try to see that each of their audits covers every area, and, in the end, allows them to come up with a clear picture of the financial-management operations of a committee. Based on the results of each audit these commissions determine the steps necessary for eliminating any uncovered violations and deficiencies.

At the same time it appears that some committees and auditing commissions are not conducting audits on time and with care, and are sometimes missing obvious violations in financial and official activities. Some auditing commissions are lazy. The total percentage of DOSAAF organizations receiving audits testifies to this. In the course of a year it was only 85 percent.

At many rayon and city organizations audits are conducted haphazardly, and committees do not come under any financial monitoring for a long time. As a result, frequently violations and illegal expenditures of money and physical equipment are encountered here. The situation with public control organizations is especially bad in many rayon organizations of the Tadzhik SSR and Permskaya, Tambovskaya and Irkutskaya oblasts.

Some committees do not always act on the results of audits and poorly oversee the implementation of recommendations by commissions. This is one of the reasons that there is still embezzlement and shortages of public property, and that excessive buildups in physical assets continue to occur. Recently deficits and violations in the disposition of monetary and equipment resources have been observed in DOSAAF organizations of the Yakutsk ASSR, Chechen-Ingush ASSR and Altay Kray. The chairmen of these committees V. Arkhipov, V. Lun'kov and V. Katayev must significantly improve their financial control over the work of DOSAAF organizations.

Unfortunately, we must admit that a concern for economizing of financial and physical resources does not command the attention of committees everywhere. In some places budget overexpenditures are tolerated when carrying out construction and repair work, and the completion of construction plans is often neglected by DOSAAF committees. In 1977 DOSAAF organizations of Latvia and Estonia, Krasnoyarsk Kray, and Ivanovskaya, Yaroslavskaya and certain other oblasts fell behind in carrying out their construction plans.

There is still a lack of concern at our enterprises for conserving work time, raw materials and other goods in some places. A concept of thrift towards fixed capital is missing, the standards of socialist management are being violated, and occasionally a real lack of responsibility occurs. For example, serious discrepancies and abuses in financial-management operations were turned up through an audit at a shop of the Severo-Osetinskaya DOSAAF obkom.

The party is teaching the Soviet people to be thrifty and show concern for public property. The Eighth All-Union DOSAAF Congress also called for the conducting of a dedicated struggle aimed at following a strict regime of economy towards money and physical property, and for taking steps to eliminate the causes and conditions which give rise to such type of violations. Guided by the decisions of the Eighth All-Union DOSAAF Congress it is necessary for all elements of auditing commissions to constantly improve the quality of audits and inventories, strictly observe the times for conducting them, work out clear proposals for eliminating deficits and violations, and name those officials who are responsible for the lack of control over preserving public property. In addition, an effort ought to be made to see that the exposed problem areas be straightened out rapidly, and the people responsible for them be brought into line.

Experience has shown that it is necessary to constantly rely on auditing commissions and to improve their methods of operation. It is very important that the work of the commissions receive the support and understanding of committees, as well as of management and financial employees, and that the practical suggestions of public controllers be considered promptly and result in the proper corrective action.

In order to further strengthen the financial and material-equipment base of DOSAAF and increase the role of public control, DOSAAF's guiding organs must continually be concerned with the activities and dedicated efforts of auditing commissions. It is important to eliminate existing errors, pay close attention to unresolved problems, and move forward to new successes in mass-defense work in light of the demands of the Eighth all-Union DOSAAF Congress.

6754

CSO: 1801

MILITARY-TECHNICAL SPORTS ACTIVITIES IN THE GEORGIAN SSR

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 28 Jun 78 p 1

[Article by M. Nemirova: "The Party's Concern with Sports"]

[Text] A conference involving the leading DOSAAF workers of Georgia was held at the division of administrative organs of the Central Committee of the Georgian Communist Party. Here problems on the status and further development of military-technical types of sports were discussed.

It was noted at the conference that the republic organization of Georgia has made major strides forward in this area in recent years under the guidance of the republic Central Committee of the Communist Party and Council of Ministers in close cooperation with the Komsomol and trade unions.

Last year some 28 masters of sports and over 1,000 candidates for master of sports and first-class sportsmen were trained in DOSAAF organizations, sports groups and sections. A total of 851,000 republic young people are now involved in military-technical types of sports.

However, in addressing the conference the chairman of the Georgian DOSAAF Central Committee V. Dzhandzhgava, chairmen of the Abkhazskaya, Adzharskaya and Yugo-Osetinskaya DOSAAF obkoms N. Usov, E. Tkhilaishvili and Kh. Basayev, and also chairmen of DOSAAF gorkoms from Kutaisi, Khashuri and Gori -- G. Sulamanidze, M. Tatanashvili and I. Mtvarelidze all spoke about the fact that the gains achieved last year can be improved upon. The successes in sports work could be even greater if the leaders of all public organizations and departments of the republic, as well as the heads of local soviets, institutions, kolkhozes and sovkhoses, gave more attention to this important matter.

It was discussed at the conference that the slow completion of plans for the capital construction of DOSAAF sports facilities on the part of contractor organizations is acting as a brake on the further development of military-technical sports in the republic. These parties are to blame for the fact that the DOSAAF republic firing range in Tbilisi is still uncompleted after eight years of construction, and the swimming pool in Sukhumi is still unfinished after five years. The question arose about how some rayons, such

as Kaspiyskiy, Akhmetskiy, Aspindzskiy, Lagodekhskiy, Sagaredzhoyskiy and Yugo-Osetinskaya Oblast, give little attention to DOSAAF sports work even with the active support of local governmental organs and poorly attend to matters of selecting supervisory personnel for DOSAAF committees.

The matter of the necessity to broadly develop technical types of sports in secondary schools stood out especially. Specifically, the discussion centered around the participation of DOSAAF committees and training organizations in organizing the work of groups and sections on these types of sports in public schools.

The chairman of the DOSAAF obkom N. Usov spoke about the pressing need for construction of a sports base in the Abkhazskaya ASSR. Presently there is not one indoor shooting range belonging to DOSAAF in the autonomous republic, and there is no sports base for the development of motor vehicle-motorcycle sports, nor a facility for operating model airplanes and cars as a sport. And here you have the city of Sukhumi which has repeatedly been the home of world champions in shooting sports.

A similar situation exists in the Adzharskaya ASSR, where only 14 out of 27 types of sports are being worked on.

At the conference the chief of the sports division of the Georgian DOSAAF Central Committee A. Shevardnadze and chief of the DOSAAF republic sports base T. Chkheidze talked about the importance of close cooperation with other public organizations and departments, as well as with enterprises and kolkhozes, in the development of technical type sports.

The head of the division of administrative organs of the Central Committee of the Georgian Communist Party G. Gvetadze summed up the work of the conference. He pointed out to those attending the meetings the need for an increased involvement of young people in military-technical types of sports and for better leadership in sports by the DOSAAF Central Committee of the republic and on the local level; he brought this matter to the attention of all organizations and departments; and he also set down the goals for preparing for and conducting the Eighth Spartacus Games among the peoples of the USSR.

6754

CSO: 1801

EFFECTIVENESS OF DOSAAF DRIVER TRAINING DISCUSSED

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 28 Jun 78 p 3

[Article by A. Lobzin, a division chief of the Central Committee DOSAAF USSR:
"The Main Thing -- Practical Work"]

[Text] The supply of training equipment at DOSAAF technical, combined technical, and motor vehicle schools has a marked effect on the quality of specialist training. The significance of this training equipment is growing with the increase in the scope of practical and practical-laboratory studies specified by the program.

This is natural, since a school must have available not only motor vehicles but other equipment as well, for training drivers of armored personnel carriers or driver-mechanics of heavy-duty cranes. In addition to this a school's training base must also include classrooms and other production-training facilities for turning out category "V" drivers and mechanics for special vehicles.

With the changeover of the majority of schools to new driver training programs, the matter of creating the necessary training base at DOSAAF schools is taking on more and more significance. The new programs require a marked increase in the quality of training of specialists and above all the development of better practical skills in driving, maintenance, and work on special equipment. To accomplish this a large number of training hours will be allotted to practical-laboratory and practical studies.

The requirements of the new programs and the rules governing the training of specialists in DOSAAF training organizations are found in the manual on organization of the educational-training process in DOSAAF schools. Its documents represent the basis for setting up the training for military-technical specialties.

The majority of DOSAAF committees and schools have already updated their training equipment base. This applies to the Shyaulyay Combined Technical School which turns out driver-mechanics for truck-mounted cranes and drivers of diesel-powered vehicles; the Daugavpils, Smolensk, Khabarovsk and Brest

combined technical schools which train drivers of heavy-duty trucks and drivers of gasoline-powered vehicles; the Taganrog Motor Vehicle School which produces driver-electricians, and other schools.

These advanced training organizations represent real guiding lights in the training of personnel for the armed forces and national economy. Here much attention is being given to instructional technique work, the introduction into the training process of technical, including programming, training equipment, the work of innovators, and an esthetic approach to equipping classrooms. The heads of these schools A. Sruogis, A. Kozik, N. Patsyuk, V. Bochkov, V. Pinchuk, and Yu. Buvalko are not only good organizers, but experienced teachers and specialists in educational methods.

At the same time there are schools where so far the necessary changes have not been introduced into the structure of the training equipment base, despite the fact that there has been adequate time to do this. As a result operational problems develop.

The training equipment base at the Chelyabinsk Technical and Motor Vehicle schools, the Vyborg, Borovichi and Krasnodar technical schools, the Maykop and Velikolukskiy combined technical schools, and the Dimitrovgrad Motor Vehicle School, which are all training driver personnel for special vehicles, faces serious shortages.

Because many of these training organizations are training specialists in several fields, I think we should dwell on some examples and peculiarities in the use of the equipment base.

It is quite apparent that the planning and organization of the training process becomes very complicated when training students for several specialties. This requires more training areas for each specialty on the whole. However, the peculiarities in the operation of these schools is not always taken into account. In a number of cases a broad range of specialties is created without the school having the necessary quantity of training classrooms.

For example, the Dnepropetrovsk Technical School has all the resources for the quality training of driver-mechanics of truck-mounted cranes. But due to the limited number of classrooms for practical-laboratory work here it is impossible to set up the training of drivers of gasoline-powered vehicles simultaneously with the crane driver-mechanics.

Thus, in establishing assignments for training specialists of various types it is necessary to consider the capabilities of the training base of the school and the advisability of spending money for reequipping classrooms.

The difference between the current training equipment base and the requirements of the new programs can be clearly seen at the Kirovakan Motor Vehicle School which trains drivers of diesel- and gasoline-powered vehicles. For carrying out the program the training organization should have, for example,

two classrooms for practical-laboratory studies on vehicle maintenance (one for each specialty), where four engines for tuning up are mounted on four vehicles of the appropriate types. While at the Kirovakan school there is only one classroom where four vehicles (KraZ-255, MAZ-200, ZIL-130, and GAZ-66) and six engines for tuning up have been installed. Thus, under these conditions with the simultaneous training of students in two specialties and on one shift, some subjects cannot be covered.

But at the Yerevan Technical School with its two-specialty training program, despite the fact that the classroom for practical-laboratory work on vehicle maintenance is the only one and can only hold six vehicles and six engines, they have come up with a method which allows full development of the program. First of all the training has been set up in two shifts: in the morning session the armored personnel carrier drivers are trained, and in the evening one -- the motor vehicle drivers. All groups conduct their studies on a staggered schedule which eliminates the possibility of two groups working on the same exercise at the same time. And finally, if, for example, one training group on the first shift is working on two armored personnel carriers and two ZIL vehicles, plus the four corresponding engines, then the other group on the second shift works with the two GAZ vehicles and the same two ZIL vehicles, plus four engines for tuning.

Of course, to maintain a smooth-running training operation the school's head, M. Stepanyan, and his deputy must give a great deal of attention to questions of training group assignments, use of equipment, and other organizational matters, but it is fully warranted.

The experience of the Yerevan Technical School in the efficient combining of the training process with the resources of the training equipment base can also be successfully applied in specialized schools.

6754

CSO: 1801

DOSAAF ACTIVITIES CRITICIZED IN FOLLOWUP REPORTS

Driving Instruction in Minsk Improved

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 2 Jul 78 p 3

[Article: "Road Rules For...A Tape Recorder"]

[Text] This was the title of an article published in SOVETSKIY PATRIOT on May 14 1978. It told of serious shortcomings in the training of drivers in a number of Minsk STK's [sports-technical club].

As reported to us by the chairman of the Minsk DOSAAF gorkom, A. Zolotarev, the newspaper articles were discussed at the presidium of the DOSAAF city committee and at a conference of chairmen of DOSAAF raykoms and chiefs of sports-technical clubs.

Questions of increasing the quality of driver training were discussed at seminars of STK chiefs, teachers, masters, and committee chairmen. An inspection competition of training classrooms for training drivers and motorcyclists has been announced. The DOSAAF committees have increased the monitoring of the work by STK's and courses.

Financial Irregularities Being Rectified

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 5 Jul 78 p 3

[Article: "Received for Services"]

[Text] "Combiners"--this was the title of the correspondence published in our newspaper on 31 May 1978. It discussed the coarse violations of financial discipline and labor legislation and cases of embezzlement of the society's resources which occurred in the activity of the chief of the DOSAAF Terbunskiy automobile school, N. Chekanov, and some of his subordinates.

As reported to the editors by the chairman of the Lipetsk DOSAAF oblast committee, V. Malikov, the newspaper's article was discussed at a meeting of the obkom presidium. The criticism contained in the correspondence was adjudged correct.

The decree of the DOSAAF obkom presidium on this question notes that the oblast committee displayed inexcusable sluggishness in adopting decisive measures to stop transgressions of the law in the automobile school and did a poor job of monitoring the execution of its decisions which were adopted as a result of repeated checks of declarations and complaints. This permitted the combiners to remain unpunished for a long time.

Now, measures are being adopted to improve the situation in the Terbunskiy automobile school. By the decision of the DOSAAF obkom presidium N. Chekanov, the school chief, was relieved of his duties. Furthermore, the Terbunskiy rayon committee of the CPSU imposed strict party punishment on him.

The deputy chief of the school, V. Gulevskiy, and the school's senior bookkeeper, L. Volobuyev, have also been relieved of their assigned duties. The latter was brought to trial and the sums which he misappropriated are being withheld from him.

On the recommendation of the Terbunskiy raykom of the CPSU, M. Rezinkov who formerly worked as an instructor of the party raykom and has a higher engineering education has been appointed chief of the DOSAAF automobile school. Communist V. Shipukhov, who also has a special education, has been appointed deputy chief.

The DOSAAF oblast committee has worked out measures to strengthen control of the financial and administrative activity of the schools, STK's, and DOSAAF rayon (city) committees of the oblast and to improve indoctrinational work with leaders, workers, and students of the training organizations. The weakness of financial control and the necessity for a fundamental improvement in bookkeeping and auditing work was strictly pointed out to the chief bookkeeper of the DOSAAF obkom.

Replies To Sport Criticism

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 9 Jul 78 p 3

[Article: "Thirst at the Spring"]

[Text] A series of materials on shortcomings in the development of military-technical types of sport in Central Asia was published under this heading in SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in April 1978. Responses reached the editors from Tadzhikistan, Turkmenia, and Uzbekistan.

The facts set forth in the critical materials occurred. The state of work on the development of military-technical types of sport was discussed at a plenum of the DOSAAF Central Committee of the Tadzhik SSR and at an expanded session of the presidium of the republic's DOSAAF Central Committee.

It is planned to put the shooting complex in the city of Dushanbe into operation in the fourth quarter of this year. Documents have been worked out for

the construction of a new shooting gallery in Leninabad. A section of land for the construction of a shooting gallery and STK [sports-technical club] has been allocated in Fayzabadskiy rayon.

A joint decree of the Ministry of Popular Education of the Tadzhik SSR and the republic's DOSAAF Central Committee has been adopted concerning the further development of military-technical types of sport among school children.

V. Mamadov, Chairman, DOSAAF Central Committee, Tadzhik SSR

The material, "Thirst at the Spring," was discussed at a conference of the leading personnel of the republic's DOSAAF organization. The DOSAAF Central Committee of the Uzbek SSR has drawn up a plan of additional measures for the development of sport. Monitoring of the organization and conduct of competitions has been improved. A seminar of deputy chairmen of DOSAAF obkoms and deputy chiefs of training organizations examined the question of the work of DOSAAF organizations and committees on the further development of military-technical types of sport.

A. Khodzhibayev, Chairman, DOSAAF Central Committee, Uzbek SSR

The critical material, "Thirst at the Spring," was discussed in the DOSAAF Central Committee of the Turkmen SSR. An expanded session of the presidium of the republic's DOSAAF Central Committee approved a specific plan of measures to eliminate shortcomings. Now, special attention is being paid to the checking and monitoring of the reliability of statistical data, consideration of the requirement and consumption of ammunition, and supplying the DOSAAF organizations with firearms.

The personnel of the committees who are guilty of poor organizational work in the development of military-technical types of sport have been strictly warned.

A. Rozyyev, Chairman, DOSAAF Central Committee, Turkmen SSR

Work in Higher Educational Institutions

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 12 Jul 78 p 3

[Article: "They Decided Simply..."]

[Text] A letter published under this title in SOVETSKIY PATRIOT on 7 May 1978 told of insufficient attention on the part of the Leningrad DOSAAF city committee to the society's primary organizations in the higher educational institutions and their deeds and needs.

The chairman of the DOSAAF gorkom, Rear Admiral I. Dubyaga, informed the editors that the newspaper's article was discussed at a conference in the department of mass organizational work and military-patriotic propaganda of the gorkom. The critical remarks of the letter's author and the editors' comments on it were adjudged correct.

To make the activity of the DOSAAF collectives in the Leningrad higher educational institutions more active and improve their supervision a number of measures are being conducted by the gorkom. The procedure for considering the results of the work by the DOSAAF organizations in the higher educational institutions has been changed. A broad range of the public in the educational institutions will be involved in summing up the results, and the conduct of mutual checks and familiarization with the experience of the leaders are envisaged.

The results of the inspection competition of the higher educational institutions and other educational institutions will be included in a special section in the report on the work of the city organization for the year.

The DOSAAF gorkom has generalized the experience of the successful training of instructors for mass-defense work in the departments of the social professions of three of the city's higher educational institutions. The chairman of the DOSAAF Oktyabr'skiy raykom, F. Andreyev, shared his experience in leading the society's primary organizations in higher educational institutions at a joint seminar of DOSAAF raykom chairmen and chiefs of departments for sports and mass-defense work of the city's Komsomol raykom.

This September, it is planned to conduct a city-wide seminar of chairmen of DOSAAF committees in the higher educational institutions on the base of the Leningrad Institute of Railroad Transportation Engineers.

Spare Parts for Automobile Trainers

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 12 Jul 78 p 3

[Article: "Parts to Complete Units Received"]

[Text] As reported to the editors by the chief of the administration for capital construction and material resources of the Central Committee, DOSAAF USSR, V. Suvorov, the correspondence, "The Search Continues," which was published in SOVETSKIY PATRIOT on 4 June 1978 was discussed at a conference in the administration. The critical remarks concerning the tardy receipt of parts by the Kiev test-experimental plant of the DOSAAF Central Committee, Ukrainian SSR, to complete the manufacture of automobile trainers in the first quarter of this year were adjudged to be valid.

Tardy delivery occurred through the fault of the Volga Automobile Plant imeni the 50th Anniversary of the USSR (Ministry of the Motor Vehicle Industry) due to production difficulties. By means of measures adopted by the administration jointly with the plant, the discrepancy between the plan for the

production of automobile trainers and the deliveries of articles to complete production has now been eliminated. Parts to complete production have been received from the Volga Automobile Plant for all items in the amount required for production in the third and fourth quarters.

Official Relieved for Misuse of Vehicle

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 16 Jul 78 p 2

[Article: "Relieved of Duty"]

[Text] "Along the Path of Least Resistance"--a survey of letters appearing in SOVETSKIY PATRIOT No 42 was published under this title. In particular, it told how instruction in motor vehicle driving was poor in the DOSAAF courses in the village of Yur'ya.

As reported to the editors by the chairman of the Kirovskaya DOSAAF oblast committee, V. Baranov, the newspaper's article was discussed by the presidium of the oblast committee. The facts were confirmed. For abuse of his official position, which was expressed in the use of a training vehicle for personal needs, the chairman of the Yur'ya DOSAAF raykom, V. Smertin, was relieved of his duties.

The presidium of the DOSAAF obkom adopted a decree concerning improvement of the direction of technical training in the primary and rayon organizations of the defense society.

Dog Breeding Activities Improved

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 26 Jul 78 p 3

[Article: "Not by That Leash..."]

[Text] An article under this heading was published in SOVETSKIY PATRIOT on 29 March 1978. It criticized the activity of the Ukrainian dog breeders, Ye. Stepanov and Ye. Orlovskaya. The article stated that a meeting held by the presidium of the Federation of Service Dog Breeding (FSS) USSR approved the decision to deprive Stepanov and Orlovskaya of their title of judge. Shortcomings in the activity of the FSS, Ukrainian SSR, especially in questions of breeding work, were also pointed out.

The editors received a response from the deputy chairman of the DOSAAF Central Committee, Ukrainian SSR, I. Sorokin and the chairman of the FSS, Ukrainian SSR, G. Gorokhovskiy. The Central Committee of DOSAAF, Ukrainian SSR, required that all of the society's oblast committees bring to the notice of the workers and public-spirited activists of DOSAAF the decisions of the presidium of the Federation of Service Dog Breeding, USSR, and accept a decree of the presidium for undeviating execution. A plenum of the council of the Federation of Service Dog Breeding, Ukrainian SSR, took place and a decree was adopted in which measures to improve work were outlined. In the majority of clubs, meetings took place at which measures to improve dog breeding in the Ukraine were discussed.

FOLLOW-UP REPORTS ON CRITICISMS OF DOSAAF ACTIVITIES

Sports-Technical Club Work Improved

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 2 Aug 78 p 3

[Article: "Shortcomings Eliminated"]

[Text] On 18 June and 9 July 1978, the newspaper published materials ("An Open Letter" and "Prisoner of Ambition") about shortcomings in the work of the Saratov "Sokol" STK [sports-technical club]. Both articles of SOVETSKIY PATRIOT were discussed in the DOSAAF oblast committee and at a meeting of STK collaborators.

As reported by the deputy chairman of the Saratov DOSAAF obkom, N. Lokhanov, the omissions in the work of the sports-technical club actually occurred.

For serious shortcomings in organizing the training process and poor work in the selection and indoctrination of personnel, the chief of the "Sokol" STK, G. Biryulin, was given a strict reprimand.

Masters of production instruction A. Konovalov and S. Chebotarev were dismissed for using alcoholic beverages and violating labor discipline.

The question of improving the quality of the training process was discussed at a meeting of the pedagogical council of the sports-technical club. A trade-union meeting also took place here which adopted a decision directed toward a further improvement in the training of specialists for the national economy.

Sports Records Padded in Khabarovsk Kray

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 2 Aug 78 p 3

[Article: "Arithmetic Without Rules"]

[Text] This was the title of an article published in SOVETSKIY PATRIOT on 17 May 1978. It reported that military-technical types of sport in the

Jewish Autonomous Oblast, Khabarovskiy kray, are developing well only on paper--in the reports of the DOSAAF committees. Actually, the situation is poor. The growth in the skill of the sportsmen is insignificant and there is no mass participation.

As the chairman of the DOSAAF kraykom, V. Zhmurko, reported to the editors, the presidium outlined measures to make sports work in the autonomous oblast more active. It has been recommended to the DOSAAF obkom that it improve the work of the STK's [sports-technical club] in the rayons and enliven the activity of the federations. The chairman of the DOSAAF obkom, D. Varvulenko, was given a strict reprimand.

North Ossetian Auto School Criticized

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 6 Aug 78 p 3

[Article: "Deformation of Objectivity"]

[Text] An article published under this title in SOVETSKIY PATRIOT on 4 June 1978 was discussed at a meeting of the presidium of the North Ossetian DOSAAF obkom and a party meeting in the Mozdok automobile school. This was reported by the deputy chairman of the North Ossetian DOSAAF obkom, V. L'yanov. The secretary of the Mozdokskiy raykom of the CPSU, V. Orlova, and the chairman of the North Ossetian DOSAAF obkom, P. Tsallagov, took part in the work of the meeting.

In their speeches, the communists acknowledged the facts set forth in the article to be correct and they made a number of suggestions to improve the training-indoctrinational process and raise the role and authority of the teachers and masters.

The party meeting demanded of all CPSU members and, first of all, the chief of the school, Ye. Stepanishchev, that they improve the organization of the training-indoctrinational process.

For unscrupulousness displayed in considering the article in the newspaper the secretary of the party bureau of the Mozdok Automobile School primary organization, V. Timchenko, was rebuked and for nonparty behavior the deputy secretary of the party bureau, V. Nesemov, received a reprimand with an entry in his registration card.

The bureau of the Mozdokskiy raykom of the CPSU approved the decision adopted by the DOSAAF primary organization of the automobile school. With the participation of the party raykom, a plan of measures has been worked out in the automobile school to eliminate the shortcomings noted in the newspaper.

Shortcomings in Voronezh

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 16 Aug 78 p 2

[Article: "If I Had Joined the Racers..."]

[Text] An article under this heading in SOVETSKIY PATRIOT on 23 April 1978 told of how premises were not satisfactory in Voronezh for lessons with young people in sections on military-technical types of sport. The material-technical base is still weak, there is not enough radio equipment, and some rayons do not have shooting galleries for air guns.

The editors have received a response from the secretary of the CPSU gorkom, N. Anokhina. The CPSU gorkom together with the gorispolkom considered the article, "If I Had Joined the Racers...." Actually, there are shortcomings in the disposition of some of the sports-technical clubs and in supplying them with equipment and apparatuses. In the immediate future, the executive committee of the city soviet will consider the question of building shooting galleries for air guns.

This year, 11 technical clubs have been opened for young people and it is intended to open 9 more by the end of the year. The DOSAAF gorkom will be given help by the society's obkom in acquiring equipment for study groups and sections.

DOSAAF Training in Maykop Criticized

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 16 Aug 78 p 3

[Article: "Strictly Warned"]

[Text] The editors received a letter from a group of teachers of the Maykop Combined Technical School which told of serious shortcomings in organizing the training process. As reported by the chairman of the Adygeysk DOSAAF obkom, Comrade Kugotov, the facts have been confirmed.

In the 1977-1978 training year masters of production training Comrades Belousov and Yeremenko were cut off from direct participation in the training process for a long time and in equipping the classrooms for practical laboratory lessons. The oblast DOSAAF committee pointed out the incorrect actions to the head of the school, N. Andreyev, gave him a strict warning, and demanded that he organize the training process in the new training year in complete conformance with the requirements of the guidance documents.

6367

CSO: 1801

ARTICLES ON NAVY DAY PUBLISHED

Flt Adm V. A. Kasatonov

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 30 Jul 78 pp 1,2

[Text] The Soviet Navy is an inseparable part of our country's valorous armed forces. In a single combat formation together with the Soviet Army, it has traveled a glorious battle road.

Postwar development of events in the world forced our country to strengthen its defense capabilities. The arms race and the extensive military preparations by imperialist countries, mainly the USA, the numerous wars and military conflicts unleashed by the USA in various regions of the world, the "cold war," and threats of the use of nuclear weapons to "annihilate" and "set communism back" continually urged our country to display special alertness and constant concern for improving its security.

Basing itself on growth in the country's economic power, the party has persistently strengthened the combat readiness and combat capabilities of the army and navy, outfitting them with the latest equipment and weapons. A powerful oceanic nuclear missile fleet has been undergoing creation in our country since the mid-1950's. Possibilities have opened up for creating fundamentally new ships, armament systems, and naval equipment.

The modern Soviet Navy is an important branch of the armed forces intended for grand strategic and strategic missions in oceanic and maritime theaters of war. It performs these missions both independently and jointly with other branches of the armed forces. The navy is capable of striking enemy terrestrial objectives, annihilating enemy forces at sea and at bases, supporting ground troops by the landing of friendly marine assault landing parties, interdicting enemy and oceanic and sea lines of communication, and protecting friendly lines of communication.

The principal properties of the modern navy are: Constant high combat readiness of units and formations, high striking power, high maneuverability of ship and antiaircraft groupings, great spatial scope of actions, and the capability for deploying forces covertly and quickly and making annihilatory strikes against objectives on land and at sea.

Organizationally, our navy consists of four fleets--Northern, Pacific, Baltic, and Black Sea, as well as the Caspian Flotilla and the Leningrad Naval Base.

Submarines and naval aviation have become the main arms of the Soviet Navy, and missiles of different purposes have become the main weapon. Our navy possesses various surface ships and airplanes intended to impart combat stability to submarines, to provide full support to them in the fight against enemy submarine and antisubmarine forces, and to perform a number of other specific missions.

Now that the Soviet Navy has attained the broad expanses of the World Ocean, the tasks of its construction and equipment, the organization of formations and units, their full support, the problems of controlling manpower and resources, the problems of personnel training, and many other tasks have changed.

Socialist competition is a tested resource for heightening the effectiveness of combat and political training, educating Soviet seamen in the spirit of high personal responsibility for faultless completion of service and social duties, and for mobilizing them for successful implementation of the measures implied by decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

The best collectives--those which have excelled in satisfying the high pledges they have adopted--are broadly known in the navy. The crews of the submarines Leninets and Yaroslavskiy Komsomolets, the cruiser Sverdlov, the large surface ships Krasnyy Krym and Marshal Voroshilov, the large assault landing ship Aleksandr Tortsev, the trawler Dmitriy Lysov, and many other ships as well as the personnel of many naval aviation units, coastal rocket-artillery groups, and marine infantry have attained high results.

The seamen constantly sense the concern of the Central Committee and of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary, Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Marshal of the Soviet Union L. I. Brezhnev who, being chairman of the Defense Council, devotes unweakening attention to strengthening the country's defenses. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's visit with Pacific Fleet seamen is still fresh in all of our memories, as is his high assessment of their military labor.

Naval seamen fully approve and thoroughly support the Communist Party's policy, and they are doing everything to see that the creative labor of the Soviet people and their great revolutionary achievements would be defended against all transgressions.

The Soviet naval flag flutters over the broad expanses of the World Ocean. Soviet seamen--faithful sons of the socialist motherland--are alertly performing their combat watch.

Adm G. A. Bondarenko

Moscow LENINSKOYE ZNAMYA in Russian 30 Jul 78 p 3

[Excerpts] As with all other branches of the Soviet Armed Forces, the navy is a child of our people; it was born in the fire of revolution, and it grew and matured in the fight against enemies of the socialist motherland.

In the postwar years the Soviet Union was forced to strengthen its defense capabilities in every possible way. The war threat created by the unstoppable arms race and by extensive military preparations by imperialist states, primarily the USA, the wars and military conflicts unleashed by the USA in different regions of the world, and the lengthy "cold war" again and again urged our country to maintain special alertness, to be constantly concerned over strengthening the security of the socialist motherland. In compliance with a decision of the CPSU Central Committee major projects were started in the mid-1950's to create a powerful oceanic nuclear missile fleet.

In short time we designed submarines with atomic propulsion units. Of all classes of ships, they satisfy the requirements of modern warfare the most fully.

The combat capabilities of marine aviation equipped with missile-carrying jet airplanes has grown immeasurably.

Surface ships of all classes have also undergone significant change. Missile cruisers, antisubmarine ships, minesweepers, assault landing ships, and missile and gunboats are outfitted with modern weapons to be used against marine and aerial enemy forces.

The navy is indebted for all of its peacetime successes to the concern of its own Communist Party and to the selfless labor of our people. All that our oceanic navy possesses today was created by the remarkable hands of Soviet people. It is for this that naval seamen express their deep gratefulness and sincere thanks to them.

Seamen, petty officers, warrant officers, officers, and admirals hold sacred the order of the party and state, as documented by the USSR Constitution: "Dependably protect the socialist fatherland, be in constant combat readiness guaranteeing an immediate repulse to any aggressor."

Vice Adm I. Kapitanets

Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 30 Jul 78 p 3

[Excerpts] The laborers of our motherland, the soldiers of the Soviet Armed Forces, laborers and office workers of ship building industry, scientists, and designers--all who are forging the USSR's naval power with their inspired labor--solemnly celebrate Navy Day today.

Postwar development of events in the world forced our country to strengthen its defense capabilities. Basing itself on growth in economic power, the party and government have been constantly concerned over heightening the combat readiness and combat capabilities of the army and navy, outfitting them with the latest equipment and weapons. A powerful oceanic nuclear missile fleet has been undergoing creation in our country since the mid-1950's. The following have become its main properties: Constant high combat readiness of units and formations, high striking power, high maneuverability of ship and aviation groupings, and great spatial scope of actions. The modern fleet is capable of deploying its forces covertly and quickly and making annihilatory strikes against objectives on land and at sea.

Socialist competition is a tested resource for heightening the effectiveness of combat and political training, educating Soviet seamen in the spirit of high personal responsibility for faultless completion of service and social duties, and for mobilizing them for successful implementation of the measures implied by decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

About half of all naval seamen are outstanding soldiers of combat and political training, one out of every two is a specialist with high qualifications, and many have mastered two and even three specialties. Almost all ship officers have a higher education, and more than half of them are engineers. More than 90 percent of the naval personnel are communists and Komsomol members. Many ships and units have earned high government awards for successes in combat and political training.

Long oceanic cruises in various regions of the World Ocean, exercises and maneuvers have become a true school of military skill and of ideological-political maturity. Naval personnel are making their honorable contribution to strengthening friendship among peoples and to improving mutual relations between states. In the last few years

ships of the Baltic Fleet made official friendly visits to England, Denmark, the GDR, Poland, France, Cuba, Yugoslavia, Sweden, Finland, Syria, Algeria, Italy, and many other countries. And everywhere the cultural level, the high naval skills, and the great organization and discipline of the Baltic seamen, who were educated by the Communist Party in the spirit of proletarian internationalism, elicited the admiration of the countries' populations.

Personnel of the Baltic Fleet are undergoing combat training jointly with troops of the Red Banner Baltic Military District and with the navies of the GDR and Poland.

Long-lasting, firm friendship has evolved between seamen of the twice-awarded Red Banner Baltic Fleet and laborers of Soviet Latvia. The republic's party and soviet agencies devote constant attention to developing the fleet and improving its combat readiness, and to nurturing ideologically mature, brave defenders of the motherland. The leaders of the Latvian SSR often visit the ships and units, speak to the soldiers about the most important issues of the Communist Party's domestic and foreign policy, describe the labor successes of the Soviet people, participate in the work of party and Komsomol conferences and meetings, and acquaint themselves with the life and combat training of the personnel.

In turn the Baltic seamen assist in military-patriotic education of young men and women, they help prepare young people for service in the army, and they actively participate in the work of local party, soviet, and Komsomol agencies.

Naval seamen fully approve and thoroughly support the Communist Party's policy, and they are doing everything to see that the creative labor of the Soviet people and their great revolutionary achievements would be defended against all transgressions.

Faithful to Lenin's commandments, personnel of the twice-awarded Red Banner Baltic Fleet are maintaining their combat watch alertly and watchfully.

Vice Adm A. Kalinin

Tallin SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 30 Jul 78 pp 1,2

[Excerpts] By tradition, today our country solemnly celebrates an all-peoples holiday--Navy Day. Naval seamen celebrate their holiday in an atmosphere of great political and labor activity elicited by successful implementation of the grand designs of the 25th CPSU Congress and decisions of the July Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

Our people's historical achievements in behalf of the triumph of communism, which are clearly reflected in the country's constitution, inspire the soldiers for selfless military labor and exemplary fulfillment of their sacred duty as armed defenders of the socialist fatherland. The USSR Armed Forces and an inseparable part of the latter--the navy, which is at the level of the latest achievements of science and technology and which fully satisfies modern requirements--are dependably standing guard over the achievements of socialism and the creative labor of the Soviet people--the builders of communism.

The defeat of the strike forces of imperialism--Hitler's Germany and militarist Japan--in many ways predetermined the course of postwar historical development. Favorable conditions were created for victorious revolutions in a number of countries, for formation of a world socialist system, and for the great awakening of the peoples national liberation movement. This turn of events was clearly contrary to the desires of American imperialists. They unleashed an unstoppable arms race. They hammered together the aggressive NATO block and formed other blocks in the Indian and Pacific oceans.

In this situation the Communist Party and Soviet government implemented the necessary measures to strengthen the country's defense capabilities. A powerful oceanic nuclear missile navy was created in our country. Its manpower and resources embody the latest achievements of the major sectors of science and technology, the state and development of which define the content of scientific-technical progress today. Atomic power engineering, missile construction, and electronics are represented today in the most intimate combinations in the most sophisticated ships and weapon systems.

Ships and units of the USSR Navy possess ominous, sophisticated equipment. But the main, decisive force lies in the people that maintain their combat watch alertly, demonstrating endurance, bravery, and heroism. Diversified ideological work by party organizations promotes development of these qualities, high communist awareness, and ideological conviction.

The Communist Party is consistently and persistently enacting a realistic and constructive program directed at relaxing international tension and eliminating the danger of world war. At the same time life demonstrates that peace is not yet firm on the planet. The leading capitalist countries are continuing the arms race. It is being whipped on by the propaganda of military circles and the enemies of relaxation. In these conditions the Communist Party is doing everything necessary to see that the armed forces, including the navy, are in constant combat readiness guaranteeing an immediate repulse to any aggressor.

This is an unusual year. It is the year of the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces and of the twice-awarded Red Banner Baltic Fleet, and it is the year of preparations for the 60th anniversary of the Komsomol. At lessons and training sessions, during exercises, and on oceanic cruises, the personnel are heightening their combat skills with great enthusiasm and persistence, and they are maturing both physically and morally. Many ships and units have attained significant successes in the mushrooming socialist competition.

We serve on the territory of Baltic union republics and Kaliningradskaya Oblast. Firm friendship bonds Baltic seamen to the laborers of these republics and the oblast. We value this friendship, and we find it extremely important to us. It helps us to complete our missions and to enrich each other with the experience of organizational and ideological work. This friendship is also reflected in the names of the ships--Komsomolets Estonii, Komsomolets Litvy, Kaliningradskiy, Komsomolets and others.

We have evolved intimate ties with local party and soviet agencies. One hundred thirteen of the fleet's best representatives have been elected soviet deputies and dozens are serving in executive party agencies.

Deeply recognizing their patriotic and international duty, Baltic naval seamen are doing everything possible to justify the high trust of the party and people, and they are always ready to defend the achievements of Great October with arms.

Vice Adm N. Shablikov

Vilnyus SOVETSKAYA LITVA in Russian 30 Jul 78 p 2

[Excerpts] The USSR Navy is watchfully guarding the maritime borders. Naval seamen are performing their difficult oceanic watch aboard remarkable warships, having perfect mastery of modern weapons and equipment.

Atomic submarines, which embody the latest achievements of domestic industry, science, and technology, are the pride of the navy. They are armed with missiles that can be launched from underwater and with self-guided torpedoes, and they can perform lengthy cruises under water in a short time.

Many seamen have been awarded orders and medals for outstanding deeds performed in peacetime. More than twenty persons have been awarded the Hero of the Soviet Union title.

Marine missile aviation has become an important part of the navy. It is capable of executing important missions on the expanses of the World Ocean and making annihilatory strikes against ship groupings at sea.

Surface ships have become different as well. They are outfitted with modern missiles and powerful antiaircraft rocket and artillery armament. Marine infantry, which has adopted all of the best from combat experience and the traditions of marine infantry of the Great Patriotic War, has been recreated on a new technical basis.

Coastal defense units possess diverse rocket and artillery weapons. They dependably cover the maritime borders and provide protection to coastal lines of communication.

As a result of quantitative and qualitative changes the Soviet Navy has become a nuclear, missile, and oceanic navy.

Naval seamen constantly sense the attention and concern of the party and government. The flag of the chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium was raised aloft aboard the cruiser Admiral Senyavin on 7 April. The ships set out to sea. Performing his combat training mission, every Pacific seamen knew that a dear guest was participating in the exercise--Comrade L. I. Brezhnev. The seamen acted smoothly and sharply in the exercise, displaying high combat skills.

Learning from the lessons of the past war, in the postwar years the Communist Party and Soviet government implemented the necessary measures to strengthen the country's defense capabilities. Basing itself on growth of the country's economic power, the party persistently strengthened and continues to strengthen our armed forces, outfitting them with the latest equipment and weapons.

The Lithuanian SSR Komsomol has assumed patronage over the ship Komsomolets Litvy, which is an outstanding ship. The personnel of this ship are successfully satisfying their adopted pledges. Among the ship personnel, 66 percent are outstanding soldiers of combat and political training, and 68 percent are ranked sportsmen.

In turn the Baltic seamen are doing much to relate the heroism and patriotism of Soviet soldiers to young men and women and to train young people for service in the army, and they are actively participating in the work of local party, soviet, and Komsomol agencies.

Personnel of our motherland's navy are serving important missions. "...the Soviet Union has more than 40,000 kilometers of maritime borders," said Comrade L. I. Brezhnev in an interview with FORVERTS, the weekly newspaper of the German Social Democratic Party. "Because the NATO countries possess powerful offensive resources at sea, we

are obligated to think about the corresponding defenses in this sphere. We have created our own oceanic fleet capable of performing the mission of such defense."

Responding to the concern of the Communist Party, seamen, petty officers, warrant officers, ensigns, and officers of the navy are fully resolved to complete the missions spelled out by the new USSR Constitution, to dependably defend the socialist fatherland, and to be in constant readiness guaranteeing an immediate repulse to any aggressor.

Rear Adm N. Usenko

Moscow SOVETSKIY PATRIOT in Russian 30 Jul 78 p 1

[Excerpts] The review of the combat power of the navy, which is an important component of the Soviet Armed Forces, is a traditional holiday for naval seamen. Atomic submarines armed with long-range missiles that can be launched from under water are the backbone of the navy. High-speed surface missile and antisubmarine ships, marine missile-carrying aviation, coastal rocket-artillery troops, and marine infantry are capable of executing the most important missions of defending the fatherland's maritime and oceanic borders.

Being true sons of the fatherland, as with all soldiers of the armed forces naval seamen are always on guard, always combat ready.

We are in the peak period of summer combat training today. Intense combat and political training is going on in the fleet. On long oceanic cruises the seamen, mainly the commanders, develop will, endurance, boldness, and the ability to surmount the natural elements at sea and win the battle at sea against a strong, technically well equipped enemy.

Successful completion of the missions posed to the navy is ensured by the great educational work being done by military councils, commanders, political agencies, and party and Komsomol organizations. Their efforts are directed at heightening the effectiveness of training and at developing, among the personnel, Soviet patriotism, socialist internationalism, faithfulness to Lenin's commandments, and adherence to the glorious battle and revolutionary traditions.

Socialist competition is the motive force in the life of all naval collectives. Each day its scope broadens, and its effectiveness rises. The current champion of the competition is the crew of an atomic submarine in the Pacific Fleet commanded by Capt 1st Rank A. Kazakov. Eighty-nine percent of the submarine's crew are outstanding soldiers of combat and political training, and just as many are specialists 1st and 2d class, and masters of combat qualification. The collective in

which Officer Ye. Bobrov serves is holding its own successfully among formations fighting for recognition as the best collectives.

The navy is successful in its missions mainly because remarkable people educated by the Communist Party are serving on the ships and in the units. Seamen and petty officers, warrant officers and officers: These are highly skilled specialists having a perfect mastery of complex combat equipment.

The sociopolitical and economic transformations and the scientific-technical progress our country has experienced have also had an effect on the navy's manning. Young people joining the ships, units, and formations today have a good education and exhibit high technical culture. Many young soldiers underwent training in DOSAAF organizations.

Naval schools of the defense society play an especially great role in nurturing love for the navy among the Soviet young and the desire to master naval specialities. The Khabarovsk, Novorossiysk, and Sverdlovsk naval schools as well as combined technical schools in Novosibirsk and Kherson have achieved the best results in the training of specialists for the navy. The planned assignments are regularly completed here, training is well organized, and much attention is turned to creating and developing the training material base.

The navy's military council and Navy Commander in Chief Admiral of the Soviet Navy S. G. Gorshkov devote constant attention to developing and improving DOSAAF naval schools. Fleet executives always focus their attention on the training of young people for military service and on the state of educational work among preconscrip youth.

As a rule young people who have undergone training at DOSAAF schools are well prepared and serve as an example of conscientious performance of military duty. Petty Officer 2d Class V. Yarochkin, commander of the electrician's department aboard the missile cruiser Admiral Zozulya of the Northern Fleet and a graduate of the DOSAAF Moscow Naval School, became a first class specialist and mastered three associated specialties in his second year of service. Senior Seaman A. Mikushev and Petty Officer 1st Class Ye. Nebylitsa have become outstanding soldiers of combat and political training. Mikushev is a graduate of the Novosibirsk Combined Technical School and serves as a radar operator aboard the large antisubmarine ship Reshitel'nyy of the Black Sea Fleet; Nebylitsa is a graduate of the Sevastopol' Naval School and serves as the commander of the signalman department aboard the missile boat Tambovskiy Komsomolets of the Baltic Fleet.

The romance of long oceanic cruises and the courageous and hard seaman's profession instill a desire in many young boys to don the naval uniform and dedicate their lives to the navy. Children's naval flotillas and

clubs for young seamen, rivermen, and polar researchers are making a noticeable contribution to achieving this noble goal. The Bratsk Varyag Naval Club and the Moscow Young Seamen's Club are well known in the country. The Sevastopol' Children's Naval Flotilla enjoys great popularity.

The Zarnitsa and Orlenok Military-Athletic Games, to the conduct of which seamen render considerable assistance, play an important role within the overall system of military-patriotic education.

Military councils, commanders, political agencies, and party organizations are directing the efforts of naval personnel toward heightening the effectiveness and quality of combat and political training, and they are educating naval seamen in the spirit of Soviet patriotism, proletarian internationalism, faithfulness to Lenin's commandments, and adherence to glorious combat and revolutionary traditions. From year to year the ties of patronage between naval seamen and laborers in the cities and villages are growing stronger.

Performing their military duty on long oceanic cruises in exemplary manner, naval seamen are making a substantial contribution to strengthening our country's multifaceted ties with the peoples of many countries and continents. In the last few years our ships have made visits of friendship and official visits to the ports of dozens of countries in Europe, Asia, America, and Africa.

No matter in what country the Soviet naval flag appears, it is always a symbol of friendship, peace, and solidarity. Our naval seamen exhibit the most exalted and noble qualities as representatives of the world's first socialist power.

Col Gen A. Mironenko

Moscow TRUD in Russian 30 Jul 78 p 1

[Text] Question: We are aware that atomic submarines and naval aviation make up the backbone of the Soviet Navy's combat power. Please briefly describe these forces, their capabilities, and their purpose.

Answer: Owing to the great covertness of their actions as compared to aviation and surface ships, submarines are capable of making surprise strikes at practically any point of the World Ocean. In addition, because they carry missiles they can also strike important terrestrial objectives located significant distances inland. Moreover properties of submarines such as great striking power, high maneuverability, and the ability to operate independently for a long period of time make it possible for them to successfully perform other missions as well, including that of annihilating surface ships, vessels, and submarines with torpedoes.

Naval aviation is naturally the most mobile force at sea. Within a short time it can prepare for a combat sortie, reach the region of operations, and make an annihilatory strike against a target. Armed with modern aviation complexes, naval aviation can successfully execute missions in remote regions of the seas and oceans, and it can make annihilatory strikes against the enemy in all sorts of weather.

Today's naval pilots are honorably perpetuating the glorious combat traditions which revealed themselves especially clearly in the difficult years of the Great Patriotic War. Thus during the war naval aviation inflicted shipping losses upon the enemy that were more than two times greater than the losses inflicted by all other naval forces; 241 persons were awarded the Hero of the Soviet Union title and 5 naval pilots earned this lofty title twice.

Question: Surface ships, coastal rocket-artillery troops, and marine infantry are among the navy's traditional forces. In what way are they developing today?

Answer: Surface ships continue to be the most numerous forces both in our navy and in the navies of the principal imperialist countries. In addition to imparting combat stability to submarines, their purpose is to execute various sorts of missions in both peacetime and wartime. The diversity of their missions has made it necessary to create many classes of surface ships typified by different displacements and armament specific to each class. Ships varying from small missile and torpedo boats to antisubmarine cruisers with a displacement of several tens of thousands of tons are serving in the combat formation.

Capitalizing upon the achievements of the scientific-technical revolution, coastal defense troops have significantly increased their combat capabilities, and they are now called the coastal rocket-artillery troops. Armed with missile and artillery complexes, they are capable of making powerful, precise strikes against surface ships significant distances from the objectives being defended.

Marine infantry, which earned everlasting glory in the past war, has enjoyed further development. Today it is outfitted with the latest models of equipment and weapons ensuring success in mission fulfillment.

Question: Our newspaper once published reports from the cruisers Moskva and Kiev, which carry combat airplane and helicopter subunits aboard. What can be said about development of shipborne aviation today?

The need for creating a powerful navy materialized in the postwar years when the USSR and other socialist countries found themselves encircled from all sides by a hostile alliance of naval states that had created a serious threat of a nuclear missile strike from the sea. The Soviet Union

could not make peace with the dominance of western naval powers on the seas and oceans, especially because the vast expanses of the oceans had essentially become launching pads for nuclear missiles.

Shipborne aviation appeared and developed as part of our navy with the goal of imparting greater stability to surface ship groupings, especially in regions that had been monopolized by the navies of the leading imperialist countries in the not too distant past. Naval aviation added a new brilliant page to its history with the appearance of shipborne vertical takeoff and landing airplanes. Airplanes of this type were created in our country, and we are proud that the honor of flying these craft fell mainly to naval pilots.

Naval officer pilots Yu. Kozlov, V. Saranin, V. Ratnénko, and others are successfully piloting these craft. They share their experience and skills with new pilots coming from school lecture halls. The young people assimilate the science of shipborne aviation with great interest.

Question: A ukase of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet on awarding orders and medals to a group of naval pilots of the twice-awarded Red Banner Baltic Fleet who had rescued Soviet people from a complex situation of storms and ice was recently published. Please tell us in greater detail about this and other similar episodes.

Answer: This happened on a clear Saturday in March of the present year, when many sports fishermen went off for some ice fishing on the Baltic Sea. No one could imagine the "surprise" capricious Baltic weather was preparing. The winds rose suddenly, breaking ice away from the shore and carrying it out to sea. The crew of the helicopter commanded by Capt A. Lavrent'yev reported that hurricane winds were carrying several icebergs with people on them out to the open sea. The crew began evacuating the people to the shore.

Rescue operations were organized under the management of Lt. Gen of Aviation A. Pavlovskiy, commander of the fleet's aviation. The day was drawing to a close, but there were still many people at sea. The operations went on. Capt Yu. Mironov, Medical Assistant V. Salautin, and Capt A. Nevenchanyy were landed with a radio set to direct the actions of the crews and provide first aid. A second helicopter commanded by Capt V. Gorbunov was called in to transport the people to the shore. Two airplanes were also sent to the region of rescue operations with the mission of searching for icebergs with people, scattered over the raging sea. The operations of removing the people from the icebergs went on for almost a day, coming to a halt only after the last person was delivered to shore. In all, 171 persons were rescued. The motherland honored the heroic action of the naval aviators, awarding orders and medals to captains V. Gorbunov, A. Lavrent'yev, and V. Del'dyuzhov, captains of technical service V. Rudenko and A. Khoroshevskiy, senior lieutenants I. Vergun and V. Malay, and Ensign F. Lebedev.

In July of this year the crew of the antisubmarine airplane commanded by Capt I. Ryndych was called up to search for fishermen suffering disaster in stormy seas. The crew completed its mission successfully: It found the fishermen and guided a steamship in the area to them. The people were rescued from disaster.

Question: Being a Hero of the Soviet Union and an active participant of the past war, you, Aleksandr Alekseyevich, have flown many types of domestic airplanes in naval aviation. Please tell us briefly about your combat career.

Answer: I began serving in naval aviation in 1937 with the permission of the Komsomol at Yeysk Naval Aviation School. After graduating I was sent to one of the air units of the Baltic Fleet. Still being a young lieutenant, it was here that I joined the duel with the air pirates of fascist Germany, annihilating enemy airplanes on the ground and in the air, and his ships and vessels at sea, bases, and ports. We inflicted heavy losses on the fascists in this hard fight, but we also lost our own teachers, friends and comrades. I was 25 years old when I was given the command of an air regiment. I remained at this post until the long-awaited Day of Victory, which found me at one of the airfields near Koenigsberg.

In all during the war I flew 752 combat sorties, knocking down 20 fascist airplanes in aerial battles myself and another 10 airplanes as part of a group. The most memorable days of my frontal biography were in October 1941, when I was given the great honor of becoming a son of our Communist Party, and in July 1944 when I was awarded the lofty Hero of the Soviet Union title. During my years of service I had to master a large number of domestic airplanes of various types--from the I-15 BIS fighter to the modern missile-carrying airplane. The experience I have accumulated over many years permits me to say that victory belongs to he who has a perfect knowledge of the equipment and weapons entrusted to him and constantly improves his combat skills.

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CSO: 1801

GROUND FORCES LEADERS PRAISE TANK TROOPS

Pavlovskiy Interview

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Sep 78 p 2 LD

[Interview with Army General I. G. Pavlovskiy, commander in chief of Soviet Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense minister: "Steel Soldiers of the Homeland"]

[Text] On the eve of the nationwide holiday Tank Troops Day, Army General I. G. Pavlovskiy, commander in chief of Soviet Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, answered the questions of a PRAVDA correspondent [not further identified].

[Question] In the past 60 years, armored troops have traveled a glorious path. What is their role and importance in the system of Soviet armed forces?

[Answer] Tank troops are the army's main shock force. This means that they are a mighty means of armed struggle. Tanks first appeared on the battlefield in the middle of World War I. Their emergence is connected with the fact that by that time, the stability of positional defense saturated with rapid-firing automatic weapons had increased sharply. Armored machines were needed to break through that kind of defense.

During the civil war, armored units of the Red Army, cooperating closely with the infantry, artillery, and cavalry, fearlessly routed the White Guards and the foreign interventionists.

The next step in the development of armored troops--the creation of large mobile tank and mechanized formations--was predetermined by our country's industrial development and by the influence of the deep-operation theory elaborated in the Red Army during the thirties. The correctness of the chosen path was mostly fully and vividly revealed during the Great Patriotic War, when no major operation was mounted in which tank troops did not participate.

Operating in the first echelon along with the motorized rifle units, they would break through the enemy defense like a mighty armored battering ram and then rush through the breach, surround and destroy troop groupings, and capture operationally important areas and industrial centers. The motherland remembers and rates highly the exploits of tank troops during the fighting near Moscow and Stalingrad, in the Kursk bulge and the battle for the Caucasus, in the Ukraine, Belorussia, and the Baltic area, near Berlin and Prague, and on the fields of Manchuria during the route of the Kwangtung Army.

In the postwar period, armored troops have risen to a qualitatively new level in their development and combat improvement. Possessing high mobility, powerful rapid-firing armaments, and armor protection, they can insure together with the other troops a rapid victory over the enemy. That is why the tank troops still retain their role of main shock force in the ground forces.

[Question] However, people abroad are writing that the importance of armored troops in combat operations will decrease with the appearance of fire-support helicopters and other new antitank weapons. What can be said in this connection?

[Answer] Personally, I do not support overstating the role of helicopters in combating tanks. Here is why. When new means of combating tanks appear, effective measures to defend them are immediately sought out. That is, the age-old struggle goes on between means of defense and means of destruction. That is the way it has always been--for instance, with the increase in the capacity of antitank artillery, the appearance of antitank guided missiles, and so forth, tanks themselves were improved; their maneuverability, fire-power, and armor protection increased....

Our tanks are now less vulnerable in form and size. Powerful modern engines have made it possible to increase their speed and range sharply. Tanks are now protected by automatic extinguishers against fire. Great attention is also paid to protecting combat machinery against weapons of mass destruction. Moreover, helicopters are also vulnerable. Given correct battle organization, efficient cooperation with air defense facilities, and well-organized reconnaissance and observation, it is possible to wage a successful struggle against them.

All this testifies that tank troops are capable of solving important and responsible tasks in contemporary fighting. This is all the more true because they will operate not alone, but together with the other categories of troops.

[Question] It is well known that no matter how excellent the equipment is, the fate of a battle is determined by the people handling that equipment. What can you tell us about the new generation of tank troops? How are they augmenting the glorious combat traditions of their grandfathers and fathers?

[Answer] The motherland has entrusted us with formidable weapons, and they are in reliable hands.

The soldiers of the seventies are comprehensively educated, politically mature, well-trained defenders of the motherland. The same inextinguishable fire of patriotism and love for the socialist homeland burns in their hearts as in the hearts of the veteran tank troops.

Service in the tank troops is not simple. Tank troops have to handle a complicated variety of machinery, engines, optical and navigational instruments, infrared equipment, radio communications, weapons, and ammunition. And so they must know and be capable of a great deal; they must have firm skills for driving the tanks and using the weapons, lightning reactions, common sense, good physical training....

In the summer training fields--training grounds, tank training areas, firing ranges--the commanders and political personnel strive persistently to insure that each tank soldier is a good shot, that he can hit the targets rapidly during short stops and on the move, and that he can skillfully drive the formidable machines day or night over any terrain under conditions as close as possible to combat. These efforts are yielding good results.

Their high level of general education and technical training enables the young soldiers within a short time to gain a confident grasp of the science of winning, forced in the fierce fighting for the motherland. For instance, the soldiers, sergeants, and officers of the tank company which bears the name of Hero of the Soviet Union Snr Lt I. Ladushkin in the Red Banner Far East Military District are achieving excellent indicators in combat training and service. In the renowned Kantemir Division, initiatives entitled "shoot like Yermolayev" and "drive like Timofeyev" have emerged in the tank company in which Heroes of the Soviet Union Jnr Lt V. Yermolayev and Sgt A. Timofeyev are entered forever on the rolls. In the Red Banner Belorussian Military District, Snr Lt Aleksandr Surov is worthily continuing the work of his frontline father--Hero of the Soviet Union Lt Col reserve Aleksandr Kuzmich Surov. The tank company under the young officer's command is the leading company in the district.

Many such instances could be cited. They all attest that the young replacement tank soldiers are keeping sacred and augmenting the glorious combat traditions of the veteran tank troops.

[Question] Please tell us about tank troops' daily life. With what successes in martial labor are they greeting their holiday?

[Answer] Soviet tank troops are responding to the fatherly concern of the party and our people for the armed forces with successes in combat and political training. A new surge of energy and inspiration has been evoked among soldiers by the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978)

Plenum, the ninth USSR Supreme Soviet session, the discussion of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's books "Malaya Zemlya" and "Rebirth," and the preparations for the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the Leninist Komsomol.

Socialist competition under the motto "Reliably defend the socialist homeland, maintain constant readiness, persistently master weapons and equipment, and improve combat skill" is widespread among tank troops. The communists and Komsomol members are in the vanguard of those competing.

Many of our units and subunits have achieved good results in enhancing combat readiness and in the struggle to insure the troublefree operation of equipment, to extend its life, to save fuel, to increase rates of march, and to insure total interchangeability of crewmembers.

A good reputation is enjoyed among the ground forces by the tank unit of the Order of Lenin Transbaykal Military District in which Marshal of the Soviet Union L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, served. For instance, in the subunit commanded by Maj Yu. Kulikov, 60 percent of the soldiers and 50 percent of the platoons and crews have achieved excellent results, and all 100 percent of personnel are qualified specialists. In the Red Banner Belorussian Military District, the tank troops of the Red Banner Leninist Komsomol regiment commanded by Lt Col G. Grebennik are among the leaders in competition. And the soldiers of many other units and subunits are setting high examples of combat skill and discipline.

Together with all Soviet soldiers, the steel soldiers of the homeland--tank troops--are vigilantly guarding peace and the security of the peoples. Their constant combat readiness is the reliable guarantee of the inviolability of the borders of our motherland and the socialist community countries which are defending peace on earth.

Rotmistrov Article

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Sep 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Article by Chief Marshal of Tank Troops P. Rotmistrov: "Armor and Courage"]

[Excerpts] The tremendous successes achieved by our country in developing the socialist economy, science, and technology in the postwar years has made it possible to accomplish a genuine revolution in military affairs.

Soviet tank troops have also risen to a new stage of their development. Today they have at their disposal formidable combat vehicles capable of waging battle day and night and of moving rapidly along roads and across fields. The weaponry of Soviet tanks allows them to successfully combat enemy tanks, antitank facilities, infantry, and even enemy aircraft. The modern Soviet tank is a powerful, highly mobile armored fortress, and these fortresses are driven by valorous Soviet soldier-patriots.

The soldiers of the seventies are people selflessly devoted to the party of Lenin and the Soviet socialist fatherland. They are experienced military specialists and masters of fire and maneuver. Deeply imbedded in their hearts are the words of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, spoken when addressing missile soldiers during his tour of Siberia and the Far East: "You are worthily continuing the glorious work of your fathers, who defended the Soviet homeland during the Great Patriotic War. Serving and defending the fatherland is a great honor for every Soviet citizen and every soldier."

Soviet tank troops and tank constructors are greeting their remarkable festival in an atmosphere of great patriotic enthusiasm, evoked by the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum and the report by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Like all the Soviet people, the tank troops unanimously approve and support the wise domestic and foreign policy of the party. It is the source of the invincible might of the Soviet Army and Navy, which vigilantly stand guard over the peaceful labor of the Soviet people.

Soviet tank troops are loyal sons of the fatherland. They are inspired by the concern of the party and the government and by the warmth of the people's love. They are full of determination to carry out their military duty with honor. They are always in a state of combat readiness.

Potapov Article

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Sep 78 p 2 LD

[Article by Col Gen Yu. Potapov, chief of tank troops: "The Motherland's Armored Shield"]

[Excerpts] In this jubilee year for the armed forces, Tank Troops Day is being celebrated amid conditions of tremendous political and labor enthusiasm, aroused by successes in the implementation of the impressive program for communist building mapped out by the 25th Party Congress. Together with the whole country, army and navy servicemen received with great enthusiasm the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum and the results of the tour by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, of regions of Siberia and the Far East. They are persistently implementing the advice and recommendations he put forward on visits to units and ships.

Soviet tank troops have a great and shining history. Born at the initiative of V. I. Lenin, they have traveled a glorious path of development from armored car detachments and armored trains to one of the main categories of troops and have become the main strike force of the ground forces.

For more than three decades now, the Soviet people have been living and working under conditions of peace. In that time our state's economic potential has increased immeasurably.

Resolving the tasks of economic development, the party also devotes unfading attention to strengthening the country's defense capability and increasing the combat might of the army and navy. It summons all Soviet people and servicemen in the armed forces to constant vigilance and readiness to repel any schemes by aggressive reactionary circles of imperialism and its accomplices. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, speaking on board the cruiser Admiral Senyavin, said: "We are improving our defense with one purpose: to reliably defend the gains of Great October and to firmly protect the peaceful labor of Soviet people and our friends and allies. The servicemen of the Soviet Army and Navy serve this noble aim."

Tank troops have an important role in the country's defense. In the post-war years they have been developing on the basis of sophisticated technology, taking into account modern thinking on waging battles and operations. Despite the improvement and growth in the effectiveness of antitank weapons, the tank troops with their great strike force, powerful fire, and great maneuverability remain one of the main categories of troops. They are capable of operating successfully in the conditions of modern means of warfare.

The might of the Soviet tank troops lies not only in first-class hardware and weapons. Above all, it lies in the remarkable tank cadres, who have been educated by the Communist Party in a spirit of boundless devotion to the motherland and the ideas of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and have mastered modern military science and military skill.

Today's tank troops are worthy heirs to the combat glory of their senior comrades in arms. The combat experience and glorious traditions of the tank troops are a mighty force in training young servicemen and inculcating in them high moral and combat qualities.

In the current academic year, the tankmen are persistently improving their knowledge and skills, successfully mastering new hardware and weapons, and augmenting the ranks of masters of firing and driving combat vehicles, class specialists, and those with excellent indicators in training. An example is set in combat and political training by Communists and Komsomol members. Many subunits and units have achieved great successes in fulfilling training plans, programs, and socialist pledges.

During his tour of regions of Siberia and the Far East, Comrade L. I. Brezhnev was a guest of the Transbaykal tank troops. Long ago, in the thirties, he himself served in the Transbaykal as a tank commander and later

as political instructor in a tank subunit. Leonid Ilich gave a high evaluation of the tank troops' combat training. The instructions and recommendations he put forward during meetings with servicemen and those contained in the remarkable books "Malaya Zemlya" and "Rebirth" mobilize personnel to further raise vigilance and combat readiness and to tirelessly improve the training and educational process.

Soviet tank troops and tank constructors are greeting their holiday with great achievements in military labor. The tank regiment commanded by Lt Col B. D. Zagney enjoys fame among the troops. Here all the exercises of subunits are assessed as excellent and good. The quality of driving combat vehicles and the results of firing have improved to a new level, and socialist pledges are being successfully fulfilled by the majority of tank battalions, companies, and platoons.

High marks have been achieved in socialist competition by the tank troops of a unit of the Red Banner Far Eastern Military District. At recent tactical exercises they displayed excellent field training and showed great endurance and high psychological tempering. Combat training tasks were resolved with particular skill by servicemen in the battalion commanded by Capt L. P. Kozhemyakin and where the deputy commander for the political section is Capt A. F. Dymov.

Among the tank troops who are masters of their work and of whom military districts, groups of forces, commands, and units are proud are Lt Cols V. T. Zadorozhnyy, Yu. U. Primenko, A. D. Zakharchuk, S. I. Sporysh, and A. V. Onushko, Capts Yu. S. Chekunov, A. Kh. Murzayev, and Yu. B. Sivov, Snr Lt M. V. Taranov, and others.

On their holiday, the tank troops unanimously assure the Communist Party and the Soviet Government that, like all servicemen in the armed forces, they will continue to reliably defend the creative labor of the Soviet people.

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